

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

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No. 841.—VOL. XVIII.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1871.

PRICE 3D.

## THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BUDGET.

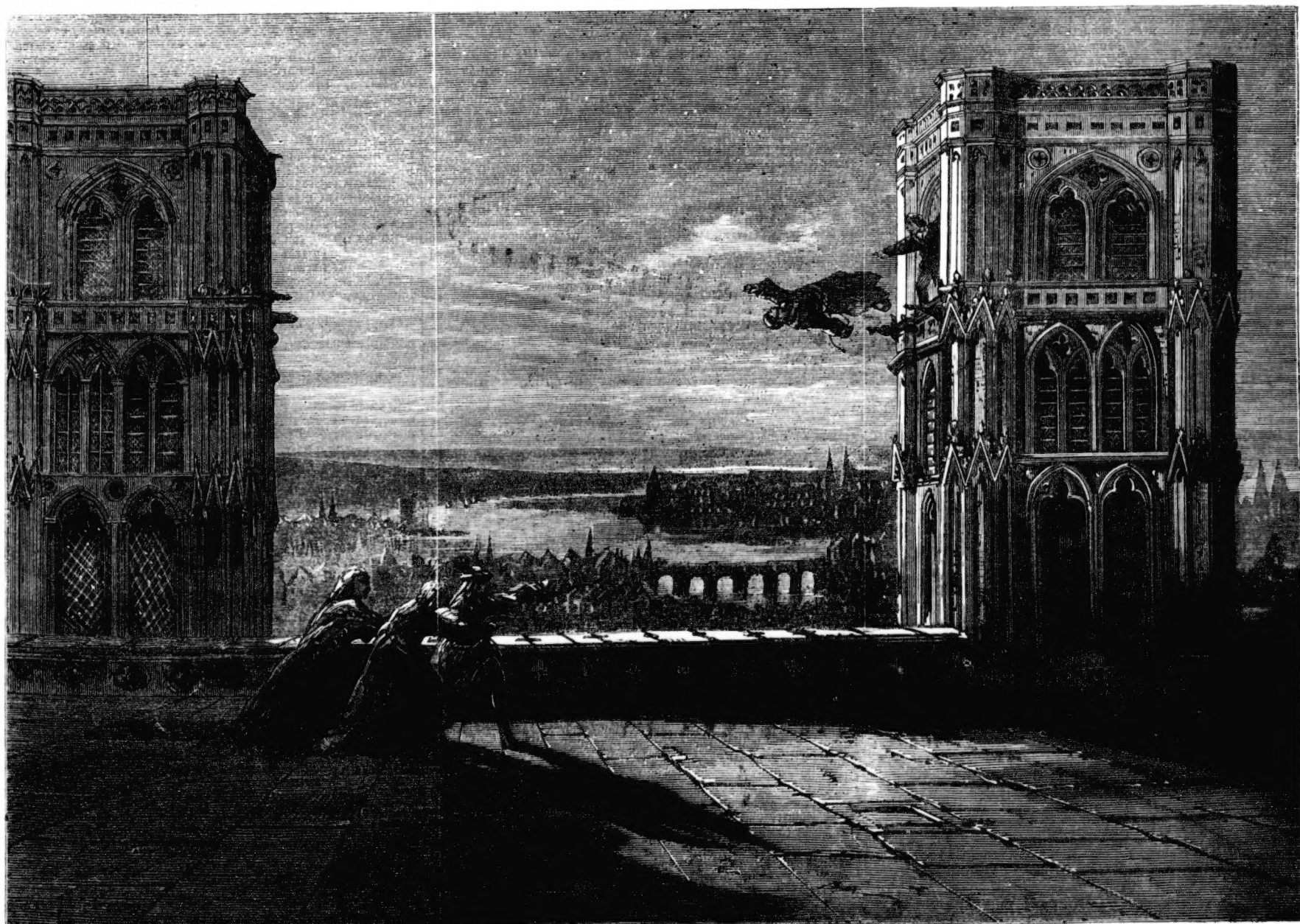
As there is a soul of good in all things evil, so is there a taint of evil in most things good: a truism of which the country has just had experience. When Mr. Gladstone took the chief place in the Cabinet the nation gained an excellent Premier; but the same circumstance deprived it of a still better Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the result is now patent to the world. Had Mr. Gladstone still held the office in which he gained so grand a reputation, and conferred so many benefits on the country, it is difficult to believe that the match tax would ever have been proposed, or that the Liberal Government would now have been in the awkward position of having to amend their Budget after sustaining a virtual defeat in the House of Commons on a financial question. That much may safely be said without in any way depreciating the powers of Mr. Lowe, either as a statesman or as a financier. The present Chancellor of the Exchequer has amply proved his ability in both capacities; but he has also proved that he is fond of effecting surprises, and is apt to be carried away by a "pretty conceit," as the literati of a bygone age were wont to designate the epigrams and witticisms in which they delighted. The aptness of the motto, "*Ex luce lucellum*," which Mr. Lowe devised for the match-box stamp, had probably as much, or more, to do with fixing matches with the proposed tax as anything else. Mr. Gladstone is as fond of a classical quotation as most men, perhaps; but he would hardly have violated the fiscal prin-

ciples in developing and applying which he took so prominent a part, for the mere sake of a happy play upon words.

That the proposed tax was a violation of those principles is beyond dispute; for, contrary to the rule that has obtained in the fiscal policy of this country for several years past, it would have directly interfered with and gravely obstructed trade, if it did not destroy altogether the particular branch of industry affected. Besides, there was an air of meanness about the attempt to wring taxes from the hands of the poorest of the poor, and thereby snatch from the mouths of half-starved women and children a morsel of the hard-earned bread they enjoyed. That last feature alone ought to have been sufficient to condemn the match tax; and we fancy Mr. Gladstone would have understood this, though Mr. Lowe, who is not distinguished for his sympathy with popular feeling—unenlightened popular feeling he may call it if he likes—did not. Hence, we repeat that, notwithstanding Mr. Lowe's great abilities, the country sustained a loss when he took charge of its finance in the place of Mr. Gladstone. Of course, the Premier and all his colleagues in the Cabinet are in a sense responsible for the Budget proposals as well as their immediate framer, the Chancellor of the Exchequer; but the very eminence in point of talent of the present Chancellor made interference with his projects more difficult, and that, perhaps, explains why the match stamp duty ever was allowed to be submitted to Parliament.

However, so far as that feature of Mr. Lowe's scheme is concerned, the mischief will go no further. The vote of Monday night, which transformed a majority of over a hundred to one of only twenty-seven, showed that the Government were treading on dangerous ground; and they have been wise enough to retreat. Before these lines meet the eyes of our readers, practically a new Budget will have been submitted to Parliament, and one mistake, at least, will have been corrected. But the grand mistake of all, out of which others have sprung, and will continue to spring hereafter, consists in allowing a clamour for extravagant expenditure to overrule the convictions of Ministers and to upset the principles of economy to carry out which they were placed in power. We insist now, as we have insisted before, upon the defences of the country being placed in a thoroughly efficient state; but we contend now, as we have contended before, and as Mr. Gladstone himself contended in 1868, that those defences, so far as the Army is concerned, can be made efficient for a smaller sum than something more than sixteen millions sterling.

Were the money wisely expended, last year's estimate of about thirteen millions ought to provide an army sufficient for all the necessities of this country; and it is the duty of Ministers to find a way of making that amount suffice. Instead of doing so, they have yielded to a clamour, raised chiefly by professional and therefore interested parties, for more men and more money, the real object of which is that a



SCENE FROM MR. HALLIDAY'S NEW VERSION OF "NOTRE DAME" AT THE ADELPHI THEATRE—(SEE "THEATRICAL LOUNGER," PAGE 161)





larger number of idle gentlemen may strut in military attire and enjoy the distinction of having warlike handles to their names; and for so yielding Ministers have to endure the snub inflicted upon them on Monday night. May they be wiser in the future, and make the means at their disposal—not at all stinted means either—suffice for their wants, instead of launching into extravagant expenditure in the vain hope of abolishing invasion panics, which never will be abolished so long as there exists in the country a class whose interest it is to excite them! For the nation may be quite sure of this, that spend whatever sum on armaments it may, panics will again be raised; and we shall be told in the future, as we have been told in the past and are told now, that our large expenditure has been of no avail because we have "stopped short of the point of efficiency"—an ever-vanishing point, by-the-way; and that if we had only "gone in for a little more," all would have been right. But, in the eyes of professional soldiers, and of those who would like to be thought military geniuses, things never will be "all right;" a "little more" will always be wanted, and the wished-for "point of efficiency" will continue through all time to be a thing still ahead. Indeed, the note of alarm is already being sounded, for we are not told that the Army of the future, notwithstanding Mr. Cardwell's profuse estimates, is likely to turn out a sham and a delusion? What has been before will be again—fresh demands for men and money will be made if alarmists be listened to. Consequently, the sound policy for Ministers to pursue is to disregard clamour, and, eschewing all unnecessary foreign entanglements, to consider, first, what are the genuine interests of the nation; second, what are the real needs of the country in the way of armaments to sustain those interests; and, third, how those needs can be supplied in the most efficient and most economical way, and irrespective of all class interests and all interested pretensions. These are the simple principles on which the affairs of the country ought to be conducted; and the more thoroughly Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues understand this, the less liable will they be to a repetition of the humiliating dilemma in which this year's Estimates and Budget have placed them.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

#### AFFAIRS IN PARIS.

There was almost a complete lull in the fighting and firing outside Paris on Monday morning; and, relying on the announcement of General Cluseret that at noon an armistice would commence at Neuilly, crowds of people went up to the gates to get out and bring away their friends and movables. To their indignation, however, at that very hour the fire upon the town from the Communist batteries increased, and before the dismayed people could escape several casualties took place. It was then discovered that the Commune had not accepted the terms of the truce. On Tuesday, however, the terms having been agreed on, a suspension of arms commenced at nine a.m. and lasted till five p.m., when fighting recommenced. Fort Issy, the cannonade of which had been incessant, ceased at noon on Wednesday to reply to the Versailles fire, but the other batteries continued firing. A parallel has been opened against the fort. The bombardment of Fort Vanves and Fort Montrouge is extremely violent, while the forts scarcely reply at all, being overwhelmed by projectiles from the Versailles batteries.

The devastation caused by the bombardment of Neuilly is even greater than might have been expected. In the avenue leading to the Porte des Terres, whole sides of houses are smashed in, and the streets around are a heap of ruins. The trees are torn into shreds, and scarcely a lamp-post is left standing. In the other main thoroughfare leading from Neuilly to Paris—the Avenue de la Grande Armée—there is not a house which has escaped being hit. Some are riddled with shot.

The second blockade of Paris commenced on Wednesday. No provisions intended for the city will now be transmitted by the Northern Railway, but will be returned to the senders. The Commune, however, has announced that a few days will bring the price of food to a lower level; also that postal communication with the provinces will shortly be re-established. The Commune has issued a decree authorising persons to send goods *in transitu* out of the city, except flour, arms, and munitions of war. By another decree the carrying of letters for the departments and abroad is permitted without prepayment.

A rumour having obtained currency in Paris that the Germans had evacuated the forts on the right bank of the Seine, the insurgent commander of the Vincennes Fort began to arm its ramparts. A Prussian parlementaire soon arrived and demanded the strict observance of the Peace Convention. In obedience to orders from General Cluseret, the ramparts were at once disarmed.

The system of ditches, which is an accompaniment of the barricades which are rising in all quarters of the city, produces uneasiness among the inhabitants, who dread serious explosions from the contact of the gaspipes which are being laid bare with the mines and powder which are being laid around the barricades. A system of movable barricades has been introduced, made of mattresses, supported by a wooden framework, easy of transport, and a sufficient protection against musketry.

Felix Pyat, who had resigned, has determined to retain his seat in the Commune, in consequence of representations from his electors. Rigault has resigned his post as chief of the police, and will be replaced by Courmet. Assi is said to have been again arrested. The Commune has ordered the imprisonment of twenty of the National Guards convicted of having made arbitrary arrests.

No fewer than twenty-six churches in Paris have been closed by order of the insurgents. Two of them were, however, reopened on Sunday—viz., St. Roch and St. Sulpice. The curés of these two churches have been set at liberty. From the Church of St. Philippe du Roule 175,000fr. have just been taken.

#### AT VERSAILLES.

The following official circular has been addressed by M. Thiers to the Préfets of the various departments of France:—

Versailles, April 26, 2.50 p.m.  
Active operations were commenced yesterday. Three great lines of batteries opened their fire against Forts Vanves and Issy. The line on the right, having to bear the fire of both Vanves and Issy, sustained the loss of some lives and some injury to embankments, but its continuous working was not affected. The line of the centre, which mounted seventeen guns of heavy calibre, had no wounded nor any of its pieces injured, and maintained a formidable cannonade against Fort Issy. From mid-day its fire assumed a marked superiority over that of Fort Issy, which at five o'clock ceased to send in return more than a few shots at rare intervals. On the left the action was less warm on both sides. The main contest rested with the centre line, and there was every reason to believe that Fort Issy would soon be reduced to silence and rendered powerless. It is for the moment

an artillery combat, of which the issue cannot be doubtful, and of the progress of which we will give exact accounts.

M. Picard has issued a circular in which he recommends that the municipal elections should be completely free, and that any agents of the Paris insurrection who may endeavour to excite disorder should be energetically put down. These elections are to be held at once, and elections will then take place to fill up the vacancies in the Assembly.

M. Dufaure, the Minister of Justice, has addressed a circular, dated the 23rd inst., to the Procureurs-General on the subject of the new law which subjects press offences to trial by jury. He loudly protests against the conduct of those writers who, after having for a long time demanded universal suffrage, constantly insult the National Assembly, which is incontestably the freest and most certain realisation of that principle—writers who are the most effective and most shamefaced apologists of the dictatorship of strangers and common convicts, whom they place upon the same footing as an Assembly which has issued from universal suffrage. M. Dufaure goes on to condemn the Commune of Paris, which, by its hypocritical language, and on the pretext of conciliation, weakens the public sentiment of justice, and accustoms the country to view in an equal light lawfully-established order and insurrection, the power created by the whole of France and the dictatorship which has imposed itself on the capital by a crime and continues to reign in virtue of the terror it inspires. M. Dufaure says the writers of whom he speaks are not the enemies of any particular Government, but of human society in general, and adds:—"You must not hesitate to prosecute them. We have for months been the saddened witnesses of the evils of a foreign war in the civil war which guilty persons seek to instigate in France. Our duty must be one of the greatest activity."

Generals Changarnier, Bourbaki, Cisse, and Bisson, have each received the grand cross of the Legion of Honour. Lieutenant Desmarest, of the gendarmes, who killed Gustave Flourens, has been promoted to the rank of Captain, and named Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. General Ducrot has resigned the command of the troops organised by him, and his resignation has been accepted.

There was quite a scene in the Chamber the other evening, when M. J. Brunet proposed that the Assembly should declare itself ready to treat with Paris, and that, with the view of bringing about an accommodation, all attacks against the capital should be suspended and the communications re-established. While he read the terms of his motion there were cries of "Enough!" and "We will not treat with the brigands." When the question was put nearly all the Deputies started to their feet and held up their hands against it. Only some few of the Left held up their hands in its favour.

An address from the delegates of Lyons to the National Assembly and the Commune makes an earnest appeal against the present fratricidal struggle; it implores the National Assembly not to rely upon force, and tells the Commune to take care not to overstep its powers, and to re-enter the limits of the municipal rights which it is justified in claiming. The address says that, as far as these rights are concerned, the cause of Paris is the cause of all the towns of France. The Municipal Council of Havre has dispatched three of its members to Paris and Versailles with instructions to offer mediation, with the view of terminating the civil war, on the basis of the maintenance of the Republic and the granting of municipal franchises to the whole of France.

### SPAIN.

Senor Castelar, the Spanish Republican leader, made a speech in the Cortes last Saturday, in which he declared that the Republican party would wage an implacable war against the dynasty of Savoy. He also announced that he would bring forward a motion demanding that the Chamber should declare that the King and his dynasty have forfeited their rights to the throne.

### SWITZERLAND.

The Prussian Ambassador, M. von Rödel, has proposed to the President of the Swiss Confederation, in the name of the Prussian Government, that in all places to which Swiss Consuls have not been accredited the interests of citizens of Switzerland should *co ipso*, without further agreement being necessary, be intrusted to the care of the German Consuls. The President, after conferring with the Federal Council, has accepted the proposition.

### ITALY.

In the course of a debate in the Senate on the Papal Guarantees Bill, the Minister for Foreign Affairs said that the bill summed up the whole national programme. The Roman question, which in so far as it concerned the annexation of Rome to Italy, was an exclusively home question, affected the interests of both foreign and Italian Catholics in so far as it was connected with the spiritual power of the Pope. The nation's object being once for all attained, Italy in the treatment of all questions must apply the principles of moderation and liberty. Thus she would prevent any steps being taken by the Catholic Governments of Europe. The fact of the seat of government being established at Rome was in itself the best guarantee for the security of the Pope. The Minister concluded by pointing out how great Rome would be with Italy if the latter could proclaim to the whole world that in accomplishing her programme she had founded the liberty and independence of the Church on an immovable basis.

### GERMANY.

In the German Parliament, on Monday, Prince Bismarck said that Germany would not interfere with the internal affairs of France, though it was hardly possible to promise complete abstention under all circumstances. In the course of his remarks he announced that the peace negotiations at Brussels did not proceed very rapidly, the French Government appearing to think that as France became stronger she would obtain better terms. If, however, the indemnity were not paid, recourse would again be had to requisitions.

An announcement of the Civil Commissioner states that all claims of inhabitants of Alsace and Lorraine against the French Government will be supported by the German authorities. Those persons who have claims are called upon to send in statements of their claims as soon as possible.

Dr. Dollinger has received a very gracious autograph letter from King Louis, in which his Majesty expresses regret at the former's excommunication. An address of sympathy has been sent to Dr. Dollinger by the Professors of the University in Rome. The address, which is of considerable length, declares that the Italians abhor the Papal system as the negation of divine and human reason, and says that in the sacred cause of freedom they will fight and conquer side by side with the German people.

### AUSTRIA.

In Wednesday's sitting of the Lower House of the Reichsrath the President of the Ministry brought in a bill to grant to the Diets a more extended legislative initiative. The bill provides that the Diets shall be entitled to vote projects of law relating to matters not already determined by special laws passed by the Reichsrath. These projects, after receiving the approval of the Reichsrath and the sanction of the Emperor, will have the force of law in the province by whose Diet they have been adopted. The Reichsrath will simply be called upon to examine these projects with the view of ascertaining whether they are or are not compatible with the interests of the Empire, and will at once adopt or reject them accordingly. In his speech introducing the measure the President of the Ministry laid stress upon the logical, passionless, and law-abiding course pursued by the Government, which endeavours to do equal justice to all the races of the empire and to carry out the fundamental laws both in the spirit and in the letter. The Government, he added, will thus more surely achieve general satisfaction than would be the case by a pretended removal of old party differences by ever so ingeniously contrived a measure.

### EGYPT.

An important financial operation has been concluded between

the Egyptian Government and Messrs. Oppenheim. The operation is based upon the exchange of old Treasury bonds for new ones, guaranteed by the railways and the public works. The Ottoman and Anglo-Egyptian Banks are interested in the transaction.

### AMERICA.

A telegram from Washington conveys the satisfactory intelligence that the Joint Commission have nearly completed their important labours. It is agreed to leave the adjudication on the Alabama and similar claims to a commission of jurists, and the right to the island of San Juan to the arbitration of a friendly Power. In the course of the week the free navigation of the St. Lawrence will be settled in a sense favourable to America. The President has issued a proclamation convening the Senate extraordinary Session for May 10, to consider and ratify the conclusions of the High Commission.

The Secretary of the United States Navy has prepared a report recommending Congress to establish iron ship-building yards, to compete with those in Europe, and thus revive American commerce and strengthen the navy.

According to advices received in New York from Colon, to the 21st, the war between Salvador and Honduras had ended. The Honduras forces had been defeated and their territory occupied by the Salvadorian troops.

### CHINA.

The Chinese Government has addressed a despatch to the foreign Ministers demanding the abolition of female schools, forbidding the teaching against the doctrines of Confucius, and demanding that missionaries, except at treaty ports, shall be considered as Chinese subjects.

### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The Cape mail brings news of a waterspout having occurred at Victoria West, the bursting of which caused the loss of one hundred lives and destruction of property to the amount of £35,000. The Governor had visited the diamond-fields, and had been enthusiastically received. His Excellency had met a good reception also in the Orange Free State.

### DECLARATION OF THE PARIS COMMUNE.

The *Journal Officiel* publishes the following declaration of the Commune, dated April 19:—

"It is the duty of the Commune to confirm and ascertain the aspirations and wishes of the people of Paris. The precise character of the movement of March 18 is misunderstood and unknown, and is calumniated by the politicians at Versailles. At that time Paris still laboured and suffered for the whole of France, for whom she had prepared, by her battles, an intellectual, moral, administrative, and economic regeneration, glory, and prosperity. What does she demand? The recognition and consolidation of the Republic, and the absolute autonomy of the Commune extended to all places in France; thus assuring to each the integrity of its rights, and to every Frenchman the full exercise of his faculties and aptitudes as a man, a citizen, and a producer. The autonomy of the Commune has no other limit but its rights. The autonomy is equal for all Communes who are adherents of the contract, the association of which ought to secure the unity of France. The inherent rights of the Commune are to vote the Communal budget of receipts and expenses, the improving and alteration of taxes, the direction of local services, the organisation of the magistracy, internal police, and education. The administration of the property belonging to the Commune, the choice by election or competition with the responsibility and permanent right of control and revocation of the Communal magistrates and officials of all classes, the absolute guarantee of individual liberty and liberty of conscience, the permanent intervention of the citizens in Communal affairs by the free manifestations of their ideas and the free defence of their interests; guarantees are given to those manifestations by the Commune, who alone are charged with securing the free and just exercise of the right of meeting and publicity. The organisation of urban defence and of the National Guard, which elects its chiefs, and alone watches over the maintenance of order in the city. Paris wishes nothing more under the head of local guarantees, on the well-understood condition of regaining in a grand central administration and delegation from the Federal Communes the realisation and practice of those principles; but in favour of her autonomy, and profiting by her liberty of action, she reserves to herself to bring about, as may seem good to her, administrative and economic reforms which the people demand, and to create such institutions as may serve to develop and further education. Produce, exchange, and credit have to universalise power and property according to the necessities of the moment, the wishes of those interested, and the data furnished by experience.

"Our enemies deceive themselves or deceive the country when they accuse Paris of desiring to impose its will and supremacy upon the rest of the nation and to aspire to a dictatorship which would be a veritable attempt to overthrow the independence and sovereignty of other Communes. They deceive themselves when they accuse Paris of seeking the destruction of French unity established by the revolution. The unity which has been imposed upon us up to the present, by the Empire, the Monarchy, and Parliamentary Government, is nothing but centralisation—despotic, unintelligent, arbitrary, and onerous. The political unity, as desired by Paris, is a voluntary association of all local initiatives, the free and spontaneous co-operation of all individual energies with the common object of the well-being, liberty, and security of all. The Communal revolution, initiated by the people on March 18, inaugurated a new era in politics—experimental, positive, and scientific. It was the end of the old governmental and clerical world, of military supremacy, and bureaucracy, and jobbing in monopolies and privileges, to which the proletariat owed its slavery, and the country its misfortunes and disasters. The strife between Paris and Versailles is one of those that cannot be ended by an illusory compromise; the issue should not be doubtful. The victory fought for with such indomitable energy by the Commune will remain with the idea and with the right. We appeal to France, which knows Paris in arms possesses as much calm as bravery. Paris is only in arms in consequence of her devotion to liberty; and the glory of all in France ought to cause this bloody conflict to cease.

"It is for France to disarm Versailles by a solemn manifestation of her irresistible will. Summoned to profit by our conquests, she should declare herself identified with our efforts, she should be our ally in the contest which can only end by the triumph of the Communal idea or the ruin of Paris. As for ourselves, citizens of Paris, we have a mission to accomplish—a modern revolution, the greatest and the most fruitful of all those which have illuminated history. It is our duty to fight and conquer."

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—At Wednesday's sitting of the London School Board a report was brought up from the Industrial Schools Committee detailing the steps which they had taken, and recommending that no additional schools should be erected until those at present in existence were utilised. Some of the details of the report stood over for further consideration; but, on the motion of Sir Thomas Wilson, it was unanimously resolved that the committee should confer with the managers of existing industrial schools so as to ascertain the number of cases to be taken by them, and that officers should be appointed to bring neglected children before the magistrates with a view to their being sent to such schools.

M. LOUIS BLANC ON THE REPUBLIC.—M. Louis Blanc has written a letter to M. Cernuschi, the editor of the *Sicle*, in which he declares himself in favour of the "Republic, one and indivisible." M. Louis Blanc fully recognises the right of the municipalities to administer their own affairs; but says that, in proportion as decentralisation is necessary with regard to local interests would be dangerous when extended to general interests. Personal matters should be left to the individual; communal matters to the Commune; national matters to the nation. There would be some difficulty in drawing the line of demarcation between these interests were not the means of distinguishing one from the other afforded by the very nature of things. M. Louis Blanc concludes with an expression of regret that recourse has been had to force, which "foules nothing, because it solves nothing," and deplors that civil war is now adding to the miseries France is suffering from foreign war.



## AFFAIRS AT VERSAILLES.

Versailles, Sunday.

THE woods and gardens round Versailles, after the soft spring showers of the past week, are rich in leaf and blossom. The chestnut alleys near Neptune's basin vie in beauty with the Grand Avenue of the Tuileries. After breakfasting this morning in a restaurant near the Reservoir, I went to enjoy a saunter on the terrace, which, the Assembly not being sitting, is open to-day, as in former times, to strangers. There were a good many aged ruralists about. I came upon a group of white-headed old gentlemen in a sunny corner sacred to a flute-playing satyr. The whole thing would have been quite Arcadian, were it not for the presence of those painted ladies whose gay babble affords in the *salle à manger* of the Reservoir a recreation to legislators after the labours of the debates and the committee-rooms. The *mur de la vie privée*, erected at so much pains by M. Guillolet, hardly exists in Versailles. The governing class here eat, drink, and sleep in public. The *Galerie des Glaces* has been—the *Galerie de Diane* not sufficing—turned into a dormitory for deputies. Sleeping-quarters for deputies' wives were not so easily provided. Those ladies cried out against being obliged to go through the "making-up" part of their toilette in the presence of each other, when it was proposed to give them camp beds in the portrait-gallery on the second floor of the chateau. Their cries reached the ears of the committee of lodgings, who agreed with them that it would never do for female rivals to let each other into secrets only known to their respective *femmes de chambre*. It is therefore arranged that the ladies' dormitories are to be divided into as many compartments as there are beds in them, by means of canvas partitions. The wives of the Legitimist nobles who sit in the Assembly have taken all the rooms that were to be let in the streets near the Church of St. Louis, where the ladies belonging to the Versailles aristocracy habitually confess. The Duchess de Decaze, though a great personage, inhabits a filthy house opposite the church. I dare say she pays a heavy rent for her little *pièce de terre* on the first floor, seeing that I was asked 350f a month for a wretched garret in the same house. The requisitioning power of the Government is terribly abused by the local authorities, who not only billet on the inhabitants functionaries in *esse* but functionaries in *posse*. A candidate for a Prefecture, whom I know, has no difficulty in obtaining *billets de logement* for his mother, wife, his grown-up son, and himself. The municipality is especially hospitable to the swarms of generals who are arriving from the four points of the compass—from Belgium, from Germany, from Switzerland, from Toulouse, and Rennes. Among the latest military arrivals I see the name of Count de Palikao. He is said to gravitate towards the Orleans family, and may possibly obtain a high post. It is quite true that the superior officers are not pleased with the turn affairs are taking.

They have all "plans," and only agree with each other in finding fault with that of M. Thiers. Ducrot has gone off to Nevers in a huff, because his plan was rejected by the head of the Executive, who has the firmest faith in the practicability of his own scheme, and exercises the most vigorous surveillance over the generals charged with its application. To day, when walking in the gardens with another person, I heard a general of division, now on active service, who was also walking with a friend of his, abuse the Government, the men of the 4th of September, and the ruralists, in a high-pitched tone of voice. There were several sailors and soldiers, and no doubt monarchists, lounging about, who must have also heard him giving vent to his feelings of contempt for everyone connected with the Administration.

A part of the conversation, or rather angry monologue, which I could not help overhearing, referred to a recently appointed prefect, who was sent from Versailles to put down an insurrection in the south. He applied to this prefect most of the epithets lavished by the *Soir* and *Gaulois* on the men of the Commune, and swore that if the official ever fell into his hands he would find means to shoot him without the formality of a trial.

These utterances from the mouth of a General, taken in connection with Ducrot's sulkiness and the severity to which M. Thiers is obliged to have recourse in getting his plan executed, does not augur well for the success of the campaign against the Commune. The position of M. Thiers is one of extreme difficulty. His lease of power depends upon the goodwill of those senseless ruralists, and he has not sufficient confidence either in the loyalty or ability of the generals sent against the Communists, to command the success which would give him, for a short time at least, the real mastery of the Chamber, and enable him to found his Whiggish Republic. *Daily News Correspondent.*

## GENERAL CLUSERET.

As a good deal of obscurity and misconception surrounds the career of the Communist Minister of War, the following statement, compiled by the Paris correspondent of the *Telegraph* from official documents placed in his hands by General Cluseret himself, will be read with interest. The correspondent says:—

According to the official documents, it appears that the present Minister for War entered as a pupil in the Military School of St. Cyr April 18, 1841. He was appointed Sub-Lieutenant April 1, 1843; Lieutenant, Jan. 18, 1848; placed on retired list, in consequence of political opinions, March 31, 1850; reappointed Lieutenant in the 4th Regiment of Chasseurs à Pied, Feb. 6, 1853; Captain in the third battalion same regiment, June 29, 1855; in the eighth battalion, April 27, 1856; resigned, July 17, 1858. He was twice wounded in the Crimea, and named Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur July 28, 1848. After leaving the army, M. Cluseret served during the Garibaldi campaign in Italy as Aide-de-Camp, and subsequently as Chief of the French Legion. He was again wounded. General Cluseret also served during the American War, at first on the staff of General McClellan. That while in the army he bore a good character is proved by the fact that the very year he resigned his commission he had been proposed for the decoration of Officier de la Légion d'Honneur—a distinction rare for a Captain. One of the documents, among others, at the War Office bears date March 11, 1856; it is signed by Marshal Forey, and speaks of M. Cluseret as a talented officer, agreeable, *joli physique*, but reproached with having too much pretension, relieving himself above his work, and consequently neglecting it.

"Many things," continued General Cluseret, after I had glanced through the documents in the War Office, "many things have been said to my disparagement in connection with the Fenian movement. If you desire to do so, you shall examine my *dossier* at the ex-Prefecture of Police." The *dossier* was obtained from the Prefecture of Police, and I examined it. It was voluminous. Among other documents were all the political articles written by the General, who has often been engaged in literary pursuits. Lieutenant Cluseret was placed on the retired list on March 31, 1850. On the 9th of the following month a letter was sent from the staff of the 1st Division of the Army to the Prefect of Police, reporting the fact, and requesting that the officer named, imbued with very exalted political opinions, might be watched, and that particulars concerning him might be sent to head-quarters. On April 17 there is a report to the effect that M. Cluseret is of an honourable family; that his father died three years before, of his wounds, at Lille; that his mother possesses a sufficient fortune; that the conduct of her son, who, since his return to Paris, has resided with her, has been good; that mother and son had quitted Paris for Suresnes, where she has a small house; that in the cabarets at that place the people talk openly concerning Cluseret, and declare that the Government is to blame for ruining the future of the young man. The lieutenant, however, avoids any popular demonstration. On May 19 a letter from the War Office is received by the Prefect of Police in reference to M. Cluseret having been placed on the retired list, speaking of his exalted opinions and liaison with the editor of a Demo-Socialist journal at Caen, and recommending that the young man, twenty-seven years of age, should be watched. On May 26 Lagrange, the celebrated chief of the political police, made his report. It was favourable. The lieutenant was of regular habits, frequented persons of distinction, friends of the family; held no relations with the demagogues of the capital, and the report closes with the words, "En consequence nous levons la surveillance." On Sept. 8, however, there was another letter, stating that Lieutenant Cluseret had been six months in Paris, occupied himself with painting, lived with the greatest economy, often wanted necessities; but his conduct was regular, and he avoided politics. In 1851 I find a municipal police report declaring him to be a young man of proud character professing progressive opinions, but not dangerous. In August, 1852, his conduct was reported regular; he still occupied himself with painting. In December, at Suresnes, it is stated that he spread alarming news that the 3rd was not yet finished, and that 100,000 men were marching on Paris to drive away the Dictator, and that he had no desire to enter the army, but would offer his services to the Pope, or Bey of Tunis, as a French officer.

On Dec. 27, 1861, an inquiry was ordered respecting Gustave Paul Cluseret, Colonel in the Garibaldian army. The result was the information that he was born June 13, 1823; served in Africa, 1854, '56, '57, '58; and in the East, 1855. He was with Garibaldi, 1859. His associates are men of advanced opinions, whose hatred against the Imperial Government he serves. There is a telegram in the *dossier*, dated London, March 27, 1862:—"Colonel Cluseret expected at Twickenham; attribute great importance." By police reports we learn that in 1864, Cluseret, a General in the American service, had not modified his opinions. In the same year General Fremont started a journal proposing to maintain the Union and liberal institutions, without distinction of caste or colour, and placed it under the sole direction of General Cluseret. On Dec. 15 the police report that he associates, in New York, with Orsini; that both left together for London; and that General Cluseret's brother is an employé in the Emperor's Cabinet. In February, 1867, he is reported to be in London enrolling volunteers for America. On March 7 it is declared that he has visited England on a double mission, confided to him by Mr. Seward—to establish an understanding between the Reform League and the trades unions, in order to bring about a revolution, nominally for the profit of the Republican party, but in reality for the detriment of England. Mr. Seward is stated to have authorised him to promise aid in ships, arms, and men. He was put into communication with Signor Mazzini, with Mr. Peter Taylor, with Mr. Cremer, Mr. Odger, and, through the last, with John Bright. He is described as having been explicit with Odger and Cremer, but extremely prudent with Taylor and Bright. Subsequently, General Cluseret was charged by the central direction of New York Fenians to make a repetition of the Hyde Park affair, and provoke a conflict. Cluseret is said to have told Odger, Cremer, and Hartwell that, if they could effect this, he would put at their disposal 2000 Fenians armed and equipped with revolvers, with knives, and *bâtons ferrés*, 500 of them being also armed with carbines. Odger, Cremer, and Hartwell declined, as, in case the Government granted an electoral law acceptable to the majority of English workmen, the insurrection would consist of only the Fenians and a few hundred workmen. If the electoral law was, however, distasteful to the people, Messrs. Odger, Cremer, and Hartwell would gladly accept General Cluseret's offer. There was a special report made about the same time by the Commissaire Lagrange, which says "We inclose to Cabinet, first, a pamphlet, entitled 'Couronnement du Deux Décembre,' injurious and outrageous towards the Emperor; secondly, a white satin band, on which are printed the words 'New York,' signed in ink 'G. Cluseret,' to serve as a rallying sign." General Cluseret, it is stated, is living at Neuilly, where he is said to have a large number of pamphlets. In July, 1867, it is reported that a Belgian named Villequin, formerly a General in the American army, told a friend who was a crinoline-maker at New York, that an attempt would be made, on or about Aug. 14, to assassinate the Emperor, and that Cluseret was one of the chief instigators. At that time there appear to have been constant meetings of Cluseret and his friends at a café on the Boulevard Montmartre, in a room on the first floor—meetings fully reported to the police. On Aug. 5, 1867, the French Minister at Washington writes to the Minister for Foreign Affairs that he has made inquiries at New York, and the result is that he cannot believe in the truth of the guilty projects attributed to Cluseret.

MEETINGS IN OPPOSITION TO THE GOVERNMENT LICENSING BILL continue to be held in different parts of the kingdom. Both the candidates for the representation of Durham have pronounced against the measure.

## THE "WAR-OFFICE SCANDAL."

THE transaction thus designated is referred to at length in the third report of the Committee of Public Accounts, lately issued. After citing the Act under which provision is made for an allowance to collectors, assessors, and clerks in respect of the assessment and collection of income tax, and pointing out that under the Act no allowance is payable to the Commissioners themselves, the report proceeds:—

"It has been the practice of the Board of Inland Revenue, under Treasury authority, to pay over to the Commissioners of Income Tax appointed for each public department the poundage, or commuted allowance in lieu of poundage, to be distributed among the persons in such department entitled to it. In 1863 it was found that there was a considerable fund arising from accumulations of the poundage allowance handed over to the Commissioners of Income Tax at the War Office, after satisfying the claims of persons entitled to compensation under the Income Tax Act for services rendered—the amount received having exceeded all possible requirements. A correspondence took place upon the subject between these Commissioners and the Board of Inland Revenue, a copy of which is appended to this report, and a sum of £2200 was then distributed among the third-class and supernumerary clerks, the great majority of whom were in no way employed upon income-tax work. This distribution was made with the knowledge of the Permanent Under-Secretary of State, who was consulted upon the occasion as a matter of discipline, and without reference to the applicability of the fund to that purpose. From 1863 to 1868 a similar accumulation took place. In the last-named year the Commissioners of Income Tax in the War Office were informed that the Commissioners in the Pay Office were receiving remuneration, under Treasury sanction, in respect of income-tax duties; and thereupon, without further inquiry or sanction, they proceeded to allocate to themselves and to two retired Commissioners the accumulated fund in question, in the proportions mentioned in the return (B), which is appended. After that year the Commissioners divided an annual sum between them out of the poundage in the proportions shown in the return (B). The matter was recently brought to the notice of the Inland Revenue Board by the War Office, and, the allocation having been declared by them to be illegal, the Commissioners of Income Tax for the War Office and their predecessors who had participated in the distribution replaced the money. Your Committee have ascertained that, in the case of the Pay Office—the alleged precedent for this proceeding—a special arrangement was made, when the tax was first imposed, for the remuneration of the whole of the staff for income-tax duties, and that this remuneration was not in the shape of poundage. The particulars of the arrangement are detailed in the evidence. Sir William Brown, who was Accountant-General of the War Office and one of the Commissioners of Income Tax from 1863 to 1870, informed the Committee that he and his colleague considered they were perfectly justified in distributing amongst themselves the money in question, and that they were in expectation that it would be restored to them. Your Committee desire to express their sense of the grave impropriety of these transactions on the part of the War Office Commissioners, and at the same time their surprise and regret that the Board of Inland Revenue did not bring to the notice of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1863 that the allowance to the War Office was largely in excess of all reasonable requirements, and that there was a considerable accumulation out of such allowances. They are of opinion that this accumulation should now be surrendered to the Exchequer, and they recommend that the arrangements for remunerating persons in public departments for income-tax duties be reconsidered by the Treasury. They consider that when any public money, as in the case under consideration, is received by any person in a public department beyond the salary of his office, a statement of the fact should appear in the Estimates."

It appears from the return referred to in the report that in the three years 1868, 1869, and 1870, Sir W. Brown, Mr. Whiffin, and Mr. Talbot each received £275. The total received by Sir W. Brown since 1861 has been £775, by Mr. Whiffin £495, and by Mr. Talbot £415. As stated, these amounts have been refunded.

## AN EVICTION FIGHT IN IRELAND.

LAST week a remarkable scene took place in the little town of Dunmanway, in the county of Cork. An old man named Shea was tenant of a holding in the town, which consisted of a market-house. The landlord, Captain Shuldham, wished to evict him, under a decree obtained at the Bandon Sessions. Shea is nearly eighty years of age, and both he and his family are exceedingly popular in the district. Two attempts were made to put the decree in force. Against the first so strong an opposition was threatened that the effort was abandoned; the second was relinquished on the ground that, as Captain Shuldham was High Sheriff of the county, he would not be justified in enforcing a warrant, when he was himself the plaintiff. In order to meet the latter difficulty, a special bailiff for executing the eviction was appointed; and, as it was understood the latter functionary would be supported by a strong array of force, Shea and his friends resolutely prepared to resist the authorities in the most determined fashion. According to the reporter of the *Cork Examiner*, who was dispatched to the scene of action, the market-house was regularly fortified. The lower part of the building presented its usual aspect, but the upper portion was garrisoned by the family and their sympathisers. The weapons of defence consisted of pitchforks, piles of stones, and brickbats; and holes were bored in the ceilings for the purpose of efficient discharges of the missiles. A body of constabulary, ninety in number, advanced in three columns to the attack. A crowd tried to prevent their approach to the market-house, but the police forced their way through with fixed swords. The women of the mob made a strenuous resistance. A "redoubt" in front of the building was held by a group of women, under the command of the Misses Shea, the daughters of the tenant; and while the constabulary were trying to capture this position a pike was being thrust at them by a sentinel stationed in a window overhead.

"After a brief consultation the authorities commenced to demolish the woodwork of the internal staircase leading to the loft, and, as the heavy blows and sound of crashing timbers resounded through the building, they elicited shouts from the people without; as the work of demolition progressed, the crowd waxed more and more excited, and the police have some difficulty in holding them back. The pikeman at the upper doorway, under whose very feet the assault is being made within, exhibits the utmost sangfroid, calmly smokes his pipe, and nods assent to the exhortations of the crowd—'Pike 'em; pike 'em.' The blows on the staircase are redoubled, the fabric is falling with loud crashes, and the pikeman vanishes into the interior amid cries of 'Bravo! John.' There is very hot work inside now. The platform closing the head of the stairs is being smothered with a sledge-hammer, and pikes, iron bars, and a long knife are thrust down through the openings in the woodwork to repel the attack. One of these pikemen slightly wounded one of the bailiffs in the neck, and then the orders are given in succession to the police within (now a strong, armed party), 'Fix swords!' and 'Load!' The police return the thrusts of the garrison with their swords; and Constable Kilroy makes a dash at the pike which wounded the bailiff, and wrenches it from the grasp of the holder. The noise of the struggle is heard without, and there is intense excitement, but no attempt at active interference. The entire cordon of police now fix swords, and the utmost vigilance is needed to prevent the line being broken. Crash, crash fall the blows of the sledge-hammer within, and down comes the platform, covered with large stones, and half a man's person follows; he is seized and captured below."

The decree was in the end executed, and possession secured for Captain Shuldham, and happily without bloodshed. The reporter mentions that "a piscator of cockney appearance" was evidently startled at the proceedings as he was on his way to a river in the vicinity.

GENERAL BERGERET.—This ex-commander of the Communist forces, who was for some time confined in the Mazas prison, and then removed under surveillance to the Hôtel de Ville, has since been set at liberty, and resumed his seat in the Commune. A friend who obtained permission to visit him at Mazas says that he found the General clothed as usual in scarlet tunic, decorated with the insignia of his rank. He informed his visitor that immediately after his arrest and imprisonment the governor of Mazas visited him, and requested him not to undress. "Why not?" asked the General. "Because it is the order of the Commune that you should not undress, as it may want you at any moment." The General remarked that he accepted that as a covert intimation of an intention to shoot him, which the governor at first denied, but ultimately explained that some battalions of Belleville having expressed an intention of releasing the General by force, it was ordered that, should such an attempt be made, he should be shot at once within the prison walls.

CHRISTIANITY VERSUS SCPTICISM.—On Tuesday afternoon, at St. George's Hall, Langham-place, the Lord Archbishop of York delivered the first of a series of lectures which have been organised under the auspices of the Christian Evidence Society, with the object of meeting "the current forms of unbelief among the educated classes." Notwithstanding the prices of admission, for the course ranged from half a crown to 7s. 6d., there was a considerable attendance. The Earl of Harrowby, who presided, explained the object of the lectures. For some time past, he observed, the public mind on the religious question had been in a peculiar condition, as compared with the last century, when it rather assumed an aspect of apathy and indifference than of hostility towards revealed religion. Scepticism existed then, as it always would; but the reception given to the speculations of David Hume at the time they were advanced showed the general feeling to be that at any rate it was unreasonable and indecent to attack religion, if, indeed, it was not offensive to the public conscience. A greater activity of mind, however, was now at work. Every inspiration of the mind of man was now put upon its trial. Nothing was accepted merely by virtue of inheritance, or acquiesced in merely because it existed. On the contrary, everything existing was required to justify its existence. Under these circumstances it was not to be expected that religion should escape the common action of this state of feeling. Religion was called upon to show her credentials and to justify her claim on our faith and our conduct; and it was to meet the desire for knowledge on this subject that a number of gentlemen, with the Bishop of London at their head, had constituted themselves into the society under whose auspices these lectures were to be given. Certain high-minded, able, and earnest men had been engaged, not unsuccessfully, working among the poor in various active industrial communities of our land, and it was now considered advisable to enlighten the educated classes in the same direction. Lord Harrowby concluded his remarks by expressing his hope that the effort would meet with its due appreciation. The discourse of his Grace, the Archbishop, which was listened to with rapt attention, and elicited frequent applause, was on the theory of the development of the universe by the agency of purely physical laws without the intervention of an intelligent Creator. He directed special attention to the analysis of the idea of causation, and to the elaboration of its true character, also to the refutation of the theory, prevalent among certain classes of scientific men, that the presence in nature of order, arrangement, and means to ends is no proof of the presence of a designing mind. The real source of all the work in the development of the universe, his Grace made out, was the sun. All forces were one force manifested in different modes. That which distinguished man from all animals was that he believed in God. Man stood alone at the head of the kingdom of nature—the first of all creatures of God to pronounce the name of Him who made all things. He had that in him which united him to another sphere. To be able to conceive of God at all, to have within him the will and the power to worship—this made man one with God, and assured him against death and darkness. On the rev. lecturer, who, in his turn, moved a similar compliment to Lord Harrowby. The next lecture will be delivered on Friday, the 28th inst., by the Dean of Canterbury, who has chosen for his subject "Science and Revelation." Lord Shaftesbury is to preside.



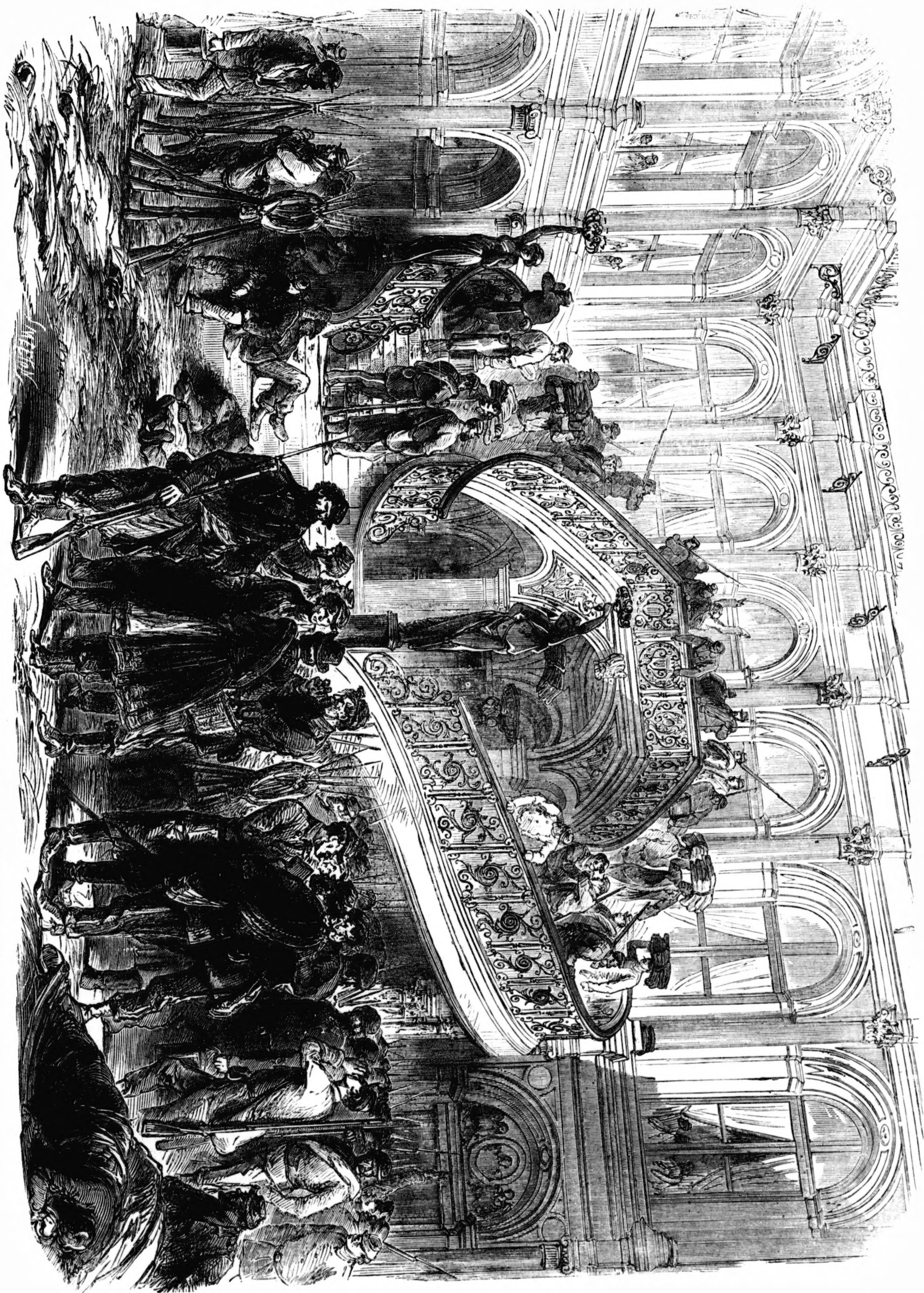


THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE: COMMUNISTS AT WORK IN THE TRENCHES OUTSIDE PARIS.—(SEE PAGE 259.)

THE GRAND STAIRCASE AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS, DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD.—(SEE PAGE 258.)







THE GRAND STAIRCASE AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS, DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY REGIME — (SEE PAGE 253.)



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 399.

THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.

THE Right Hon. Robert Lowe is an exceedingly learned man. One of the greatest scholars, men say, in Europe. He can think in Latin, and

Beside, 'tis known he can speak Greek,  
As naturally as pigs do squeak.

Mr. Lowe, too, can, as all the world knows, make very effective speeches. Who will ever forget those wonderful harangues of his which he delivered in 1866, when he helped to throw out the Liberal Government because its Reform Bill was too liberal; or those scathing philippics in which he denounced Disraeli's still more revolutionary measure of 1867. Very curious and eventful has been Mr. Lowe's history during the last five years. In 1866, when Mr. Gladstone introduced his bill, Mr. Lowe, who was out of office, came forward to head what was then thought to be a forlorn hope against this "revolutionary measure," to stem the tide of Democracy, or, as one put it, to stand between the living and the dead, like the old Hebrew prophet, "that the plague might be stayed." And he succeeded for a time. The Liberals went out; the Conservatives came in. And thus, as he thought, the tide of Democracy was stemmed; and so it was, no doubt, but only for a time;—only, indeed, for a few short months; for in 1867 these very Conservatives, with whom he had allied himself to close the gates against the Democratic tide, opened them wider and let in the torrent in a far broader and deeper flow. Great was the chagrin and curious was the position of Mr. Lowe. Only a year before, or less, he had been hailed with frantic cheers as a prophet and a saviour by the Conservatives, and now he stands alone in the House—a *vox clamantis in deserto*. He denounces Democracy with even more acrid bitterness, and prophesies with even more vehemence and confidence, than he did in 1866; but instead of cheers from his allies he gets groans, whilst the Liberals laugh uproariously at his discomfiture. Very curious this. But the end was not yet; the bill was passed, a general election took place; the tide of Democracy rolled on and certainly did some remarkable things, and amongst them these two—it carried Mr. Lowe into the honourable position of member for the University of London, and to the still loftier height, the Chancellorship of the Exchequer. Such is the modern history of this remarkable man.

## HIS SPEAKING POWERS.

As we have said, Mr. Lowe can make stirring, effective speeches. But think not, readers, that he is an orator to be classed with Bright, Gladstone, and Disraeli, if, indeed, he can be called an orator. Mr. Lowe, when inspired, can speak fluently, and can hit his opponents with telling effect. His principal forte is sarcasm. No man in the House has such art in pointing a sarcasm; and, we were going to say, no man can hurl them with truer aim; but hurl is the wrong word. He does not throw them as a spear or dart is thrown, but slings them into his opponents. Sling is a better word than hurl. Then Mr. Lowe is famous for his apt quotation; and if anyone gives the House a Latin quotation, Mr. Lowe, in reply, will be sure to cap it with another equally if not more pertinent. He sometimes, though, blunders, in the application of a quotation. Notably, he once did this in the Reform debate of 1866. The Liberals alleged that the Government was bound by honour to bring forward a Reform Bill. Whereupon Mr. Lowe, to ridicule this notion, quoted Falstaff's reflection upon honour, "Can honour set a leg," &c., not perceiving that honour in the sense of reputation—distinction—is quite a different thing to that which a man means when he says I am bound by honour. We have never thought highly of Mr. Lowe's reasoning powers. He can argue very cleverly—no man more so; but examine his reasoning well before you accept it as conclusive, for it is very likely that a fallacy lurks under his clever speciousness. Of the extrinsic qualities of an orator Mr. Lowe has few. His voice is not specially good, his elocution is monotonous and too voluble, and he has no action; "and yet with all these disqualifications he at times makes effective speeches." Yes, and for these reasons: there is always a show of reasoning so cleverly put that at times it deceives the very elect; and he is bitingly sarcastic, hits hard, and is occasionally witty. Given these accomplishments, it will not be difficult for our readers to imagine that our Chancellor of the Exchequer can, when he is in the humour, cook up and present to the House a palatable and spicy dish.

## HIS BUDGET SPEECH.

But Mr. Lowe must be in the humour, or, as we may say, inspired. Of late he has not been inspired. Since he took office, in December, 1868, he has not given us a single effective speech. Indeed, we have come to think that in the region of the Treasury bench there is no inspiration of the sort likely to move Mr. Lowe. He must be excited by opposition, and be free to resist it in his own manner and with his own weapons. On the Treasury bench, he must not allow himself to be excited by opposition; at all events he must not be fiercely denunciatory, nor sarcastic, except in the mildest way. Those vehement, angry philippics which we had in 1866, and again in 1867, would never do for the Treasury bench, unless, indeed, the two parties were in a close, internecine struggle for place and power. In such cases Mr. Lowe might mount his most powerful artillery, but not in time of peace. Mr. Lowe, on Thursday night week, when he delivered his Budget speech, certainly was not inspired. No such dull, wearisome Budget speech has been delivered since 1851, when Sir Charles Wood made his last tiresome, circumlocutory, labyrinthine financial statement. Even ponderous Mr. Hunt, Mr. Disraeli's Chancellor of the Exchequer, was more lively. But then Mr. Lowe rose to speak environed by excessively depressing circumstances. True, he had a capital credit account to lay before the House. He could show an increase of revenue more than he expected amounting to £2,600,000. But, alas! the Secretary for War wanted it all, and much more; and so, instead of taking off taxes, as he once thought he should be able to do, he is obliged to propose new imposts. Moreover, it is generally understood that the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not believe that the extra war expenditure is needed. What wonder, then, that he was dull and haggard, and boggled over his work? Laying on new taxes never can be pleasant work for a Chancellor of the Exchequer; but to have to propose what you don't believe is necessary, to defend what in your conscience you believe indefensible, to advise preparations for an invasion which in your heart you laugh at as impossible,—is not all this enough to depress and crush the life and spirit out of the liveliest and most vigorous Chancellor of the Exchequer? As we listened to Mr. Lowe, we decided that he deserved pity, not blame. Gladstone—the most ingenious of our rhetoricians, the most eloquent of our orators, the most subtle of our reasoners—a man matchless at dialectics, whom no opponent ever yet could "corner"—might have been excused if he had staggered and stumbled under the weight of difficulties which on this occasion oppressed Mr. Lowe.

## THE AFFAIR ON MONDAY NIGHT.

The special business of the House, on Monday night, was not to be the great match question, as some supposed. It is true the "Matches Bill" stood for second reading amongst the orders of the day; but nobody experienced in Parliamentary business expected that this order would really come on that night. The great business of the night was to be the discussion of an amendment on going into Committee of Ways and Means, which Mr. White, the member for Brighton, had placed upon the paper—to wit, "That, in the opinion of this House, the additional taxation proposed by her Majesty's Government will entail burdens upon the people which are not justified by existing circumstances." A very grave and important move this of Mr. White; it was a challenge to the Government, in fact, to fight. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had demanded £72,380,000 for the expenses of the coming year. "It is too much," exclaimed the gentlemen below the gangway indignantly; "you do not need that amount." And now Mr. White comes forward to move, and to ask the House to resolve, in proper constitutional form, that this sum is too

large. Such was to be the question of the night: not how the money should be raised, but whether it should be raised at all; and a very grave question it was. Indeed, as one could perceive, the fight upon this question might end in a Ministerial crisis. What if the leader of the Conservative party should decide to vote for Mr. White's amendment, and take his party with him into the lobby? For a time things looked ugly; and when it came to be known, as it soon did, that Mr. Disraeli really meant to do this, the political horizon appeared for a time really threatening. This, however, did not last long. Before dinner one could see signs that the threatening storm would pass away. The Conservative whips did not work as if they meant mischief. Mr. Glyn, the chief Government whip, was evidently not anxious; and after dinner, when we came to learn that both parties were arranging for a division that night, we were quite satisfied that this was not to be a serious struggle. "If," we said, "the Conservative leader really wished to defeat the Government, he would get the debate adjourned to give him time to get up his men, many of whom are not in town;" and Disraeli's speech confirmed our opinion. It was not a fighting speech—not a threatening harangue; but mild, conciliatory, and at times even generous. By which tokens we knew that the Conservative leader not merely did not hope, but did not even wish, to defeat the Government. Indeed, as we listened, we suspected, and now believe, that before he rose he had learned that the Government was sure of a majority.

## GOVERNMENT WARNED.

Mr. White, the hero of the night, the leader of the Opposition *pro hac vice* for this occasion, certainly did not wish to defeat the Government, but only to get up a discussion upon our national expenditure and to instruct her Majesty's Ministers—for, strange as it may seem, these Liberal Ministers do, in the matter of finance, and especially as to the proper method of raising the wind, really need instruction—and, perhaps, to scare them a bit. We read in Jewish history of one "Jeshoran, who got fat and kicked;" and Ministers of the Crown, with very large majorities, are also very apt to kick, and need occasionally to have their kicking-strap tightened up a bit. This discussion, with the narrow majority at the end of it, will do a world of good. A friend of ours called it "a trotting them round the gallows," to warn them that they will inevitably come to if they diverge from Liberal tradition and take to erratic courses. Moreover, it will warn them that the Palmerstonian policy of allying themselves with the Conservatives to beat the gentlemen below the gangway is a game which two can play at.

## BEHIND THE SCENES.

And here let our readers look at this division, for there is something in it not likely to be noticed by inexperienced eyes. The Government majority (257) were Liberals, almost to a man. In the minority (230) there were 195 Conservatives and 35 Radicals. Strange alliance this. How came these extremes to meet? Was it a common motive that impelled Tories and Radicals thus to coalesce? Certainly not. The Radicals divided against the Government to compel it to be economical. The Tories were influenced by no such motive. What was, then, the impulsive power that forced them to ally themselves with Radicals? Well, no doubt in many the motive was mere blind instinct. "I always vote against the Government," said a Conservative as he walked into the House; and, doubtless, many Conservatives act upon this principle. "Which way are we to go?" is the question which they ask as they enter the House when the division bells ring. Not "What is the question," but "which is the way?" But on this occasion a large number had a special reason for voting. There is before the House "An Army Reconstruction Bill." This measure is to most of the Conservative party hateful, and those who dislike it reasoned thus:—"If we can beat the Government on this question of economy, Cardwell will, probably, have to drop this hateful bill; for it is to carry out this army reconstruction that so much money is wanted." "But why," our readers may say, "do the Tories dislike this bill? We thought that they, of all men, wanted the Army to be improved?" Perhaps so; but, amongst other things, this bill, if it should be carried, will abolish the purchase system and enact that promotion shall in future be won by merit, and not be bought with money, as it is now; and the change is exceedingly distasteful to the aristocratic mind. And no wonder, for the Army now is a monopoly; and did ever monopolists wish to have monopolies abolished? Here, then, we have again wheels within wheels. Many of our readers, when they saw the division-list, discerned the great wheels. We have now shown them the small wheels which move the great—given them, in short, as it is our special duty to do, a peep into "the inner life of the House of Commons."

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House passed the Mutiny Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill through their final stages.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. C. BENTINCK moved a resolution in favour of the Government of this country withdrawing from the two articles in the Declaration of Paris, 1856, which abolish privateering and the right of search. The speakers in the debate that followed were Mr. Serjeant Simon, Mr. Bourke, Sir R. Palmer, the Attorney-General, Mr. Disraeli, and Mr. Gladstone. Eventually the motion was withdrawn.

At the instance of Mr. A. Johnston, and with the consent of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it was agreed that discontinuing exemptions of endowed charities from income tax is a suitable method of carrying out the decision of the House against the payment of the expenses of the Charity Commission out of public funds.

Mr. BAILLIE-COCHRANE moved the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the working of the Colonial Governors Act; but, on receiving an assurance from the Under-Secretary that the Act was working well, he did not press the question to a division.

MONDAY, APRIL 24.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Marquis of Salisbury criticised the plan of the Endowed Schools Commissioners for the regulation of the schools of the Emanuel charity, which was also condemned by Lords Buckhurst, Carnarvon, and Harrowby, and defended by Lords Halifax and Lytton and the Bishop of Exeter. On the debate concluding, the Peers' Bankruptcy Disqualification Bill and the Promissory Oaths Bill were read the second time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE BUDGET.

Mr. RYLANDS presented several petitions against the Matches Bill from "persons engaged in the manufacture and sale of matches," and their presentation was the signal for many cheers.

When the House was asked to go into Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. WHITE rose to move a resolution of which he had given notice, declaring that the additional taxation proposed by the Government will entail upon the people burdens which are not justified by existing circumstances. The hon. gentleman, at the very outset of his remarks, declared that he did not intend this resolution as a motion of want of confidence in the Government; and was, in the course which he was taking, acting as their best friend, because a persistence in the course of extravagant warlike allies, and would certainly disgust a large majority of their trust and most earnest supporters.

Mr. RYLANDS maintained that we were exposed to no danger of invasion, and that therefore the argument by which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had justified our enormous military expenditure fell to the ground.

Sir H. SELWYN-IBBETSON, without approving of the "pence at any price" policy of the member for Warrington, found in the objectionable nature of the taxes recommended by Mr. Lowe, especially the increase of the succession duties, a sufficient justification for voting with Mr. White.

Mr. HOLMS was equally dissatisfied with the Budget as a whole, but he selected the match tax as the special object of his condemnation.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER vindicated his estimates of the revenue against the allegations which had been made by the members for Brighton and Hackney that they were too low; defended the taxes which he proposed to levy on the ground that they were not liable to objections which could not be urged against any that might be substituted for them; and, pointing out that this motion was being supported by men

who objected to the increase of our expenditure for the defence of the nation, and by men who, approving of that expenditure, only disapproved of the means by which it was to be provided, asked the House what it was they wanted?

Mr. GILPIN informed Mr. Lowe that what he and his friends desired was, that the Budget should be withdrawn, and that the Government should return to the economical expenditure to which they pledged themselves when they came into office.

Mr. WHITE's resolution was supported alike by Mr. Graves and Mr. Jacob Bright, the former because he disapproved of the Government imposts, the latter because he disapproved of their expenditure.

Mr. LIDDELL entertained no desire to turn out the Ministry, but he was entirely disapproved of the taxes to be imposed that he promised to vote for the resolution.

Mr. CHAWFORD, although equally opposed to the Government proposals, and recommending that the money required for the abolition of purchase should be raised by loan, and that the other difficulties should be "tided over," could not bring himself to adopt that course, because the House had already sanctioned the increased expenditure recommended by the Government.

Mr. FAWCETT condemned both the extravagance of the Government and the means by which they proposed to provide for their excessive expenditure; and declared that he would rather wait a few years for the abolition of purchase than impose a tax upon matches.

Mr. DISRAELI, while feeling bound to accept Mr. Lowe's estimates of revenue, could not approve of one of the ways and means he had proposed. He should have preferred to move an amendment of his own; but, having been forestalled by Mr. White, he should, if a division were called, feel bound to vote with that gentleman. At the same time, he saw no necessity for a division; and, dismissing as improbable the idea that the Government would do anything "so silly" as to offer a "mock resignation," recommended that they should take back their Budget and amend it according to the recommendations of their own friends.

Mr. GLADSTONE denied that there was any precedent for a Government retaining office and taking back its Budget in consequence of an adverse vote of the House of Commons, but admitted that modifications might be introduced into such measure in deference to a general desire. He briefly defended the taxes which Mr. Lowe desired to impose; and spent more time in clearing the Government from the charge that they had failed to fulfil their promises of economy. Mr. White's resolution he described as so ambiguous in terms that no one could decide what it meant; and he therefore declared that if it was carried the Government must reserve their liberty of action.

After Colonel Lloyd-Lindsay had said a few words the House divided, and the amendment was rejected by a majority of 27—237 to 230. The announcement of the numbers was received with loud cheers. The House went into Committee; but, on the motion of Mr. Gladstone, immediately resumed.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House read the Local Government Supplemental Bill and the Oyster and Mussel Fisheries Supplemental Bill the second time, and passed the Fair Bill through Committee and the Public Parks (Land) Bill through its final stage.

Lord Morley, in reply to Lord Carnarvon, announced that the Government meant to bring in a bill for the amendment of the Habitual Criminals Act of 1869.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE MATCHMAKERS' PROCESSION.

Mr. GLADSTONE informed Sir C. Dike that the matchmakers' procession of the previous day was stopped by the police because it was not permitted to large bodies of persons to accompany their petitions to that House; but that the Government never had the slightest apprehension that these petitioners entertained any evil or discreditable intentions.

## THE BUDGET.

Mr. DISRAELI having given notice that in Committee of Ways and Means he should move a resolution condemning the financial propositions of her Majesty's Government as unsatisfactory and calling upon the Ministry to reconsider them.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER announced that, as the proposed tax upon matches had excited considerable dissatisfaction in many quarters of the House, he should not proceed further with the measure relating to it—an intimation which was received with general cheers. Being interrogated by Mr. Disraeli, the right hon. gentleman pointedly stated that on Thursday night he should press the House to go into Committee upon the resolutions with regard to the income tax, and the succession, legacy, and probate duties; and would, in moving that the Speaker should leave the chair, make a statement of the means by which he proposed to supply what the leader of the Opposition had called the "lacuna" in his financial scheme.

## THE LAND LAWS.

Mr. W. HOSKYNs moved a resolution expressing the opinion of the House that the law of land settlement is opposed to public policy, because it leads to the accumulation of land in a few hands, diminishes the investment of capital in the soil, and prevents the freedom of sale and purchase. An interesting discussion ensued, in the course of which both Sir R. Palmer and the Attorney-General, while objecting to the vagueness of the terms of the motion, admitted that the question deserved serious consideration. Sir R. Palmer recommended the member for Hereford to embody his views in a bill; and Sir R. Collier intimated that—with a part of the subject, at least—the Government intended to deal by legislation. At the close of the discussion, Mr. Gladstone repeated these admissions and assurances; but Mr. Hoskyns insisted upon taking a division, and was defeated by a majority of 30—79 to 49.

The House was shortly afterwards counted out.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House threw out Mr. T. Hughes's Sunday Trading Bill by 80 to 47, notwithstanding the modified support given to the measure by the House Secretary, and the intimation by Mr. Hughes of his readiness to exempt tobacconists' shops. The Public Prosecutors Bill, the second reading of which was moved by Mr. Russell Gurney, was vigorously opposed by the lawyer members of the House, but upon a division was read the second time by 129 to 89.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The County Property Bill was read the third time and passed, after a clause had been added.

The Bankruptcy Disqualification Bill passed through Committee with some amendments.

## THE WESTMEATH OUTRAGES.

The Earl of KIMBERLEY laid on the table a bill for the protection of life and property in certain districts of Ireland.

The bill was read the first time, and the second reading was fixed for Tuesday next.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. Monsell, in reply to Mr. Bowring, said he hoped to introduce the Postal Reform Bill in the course of four or five days.

Mr. Bruce, in answer to Mr. Wethered, said he was not prepared to name a day on which to proceed with the Licensing Bill.

## THE NEW BUDGET.

On the order of the day for going into Committee of Ways and Means, Mr. GLADSTONE rose for the purpose of moving that the Speaker do leave the chair. After alluding to the motion of which notice had been given by the right hon. gentleman the member for Bucks, he said that the Government could not undertake to depart from the basis of the whole proposal—viz., that they should look in the main, if not wholly, to the income tax for the purpose of providing what was required for the Estimates. The Government adhered to their estimates of revenue and expenditure. A portion of the expenditure, they believed, would be transitory, and the Government did not propose to provide for it by disturbing the duties imposed upon great articles of consumption, and, in consequence, disturbing the relations of trade. They adhered to the view that it was necessary that they should ask the House to meet this expenditure which the Government had proposed, and a large part of which had been sanctioned in Committee of Supply. With regard to the succession duties, there was a large body of hon. gentlemen opposed to the principle of the Government's present position. They did not, therefore, intend to submit to the House at the present time the resolutions relating to the probate, legacy, and succession duties. They thought that the best way of meeting the expenditure would be by proposing that the income tax be increased to 2d., and that the plan of computing it by percentages should stand over for impartial consideration hereafter.

Mr. DISRAELI said that, immediately after he had given notice of his motion on Tuesday, the Chancellor of the Exchequer rose and announced his intention to withdraw an important part of the Budget. Although he had then felt that it was necessary that he should ask the House to express an opinion upon the general scheme of the Budget, it would have been imperative that he should not do so until the new propositions had been made. But now that the right hon. gentleman had withdrawn the propositions of the Government, it must be clear that it was not now imperative, even if he could do so, for him to proceed with the motion, and he wished to ask what time would be given to consider the new scheme of the Government. After some further remarks, the right hon. gentleman said the Budget propositions had been withdrawn, to the satisfaction of the House and the inexpressible relief of the country, and he hoped that the Government would accede to the request that proper time should be given for the consideration of the new Budget.

Mr. LOWE fixed the Committee for Monday next.



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## THE POLICE OF GREAT TOWNS.

The expression "A fool's paradise of police" is one which must be very familiar to the readers of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES. Over and over again, for many years past, has this Journal called attention to the growing tendency to increase the power of the police, and, while the form of democracy is preserved, to let the essence of it in certain particulars slip away. Of course, order must be kept in great cities; but what may be called the Continental system is not only abhorrent to English tastes, it also puts into the hands of the Government of the day, whatever it is, a ready means not only of repressing vigorous demonstrations of popular opinion, and also a means of playing into the hands of the party of order, so called. By the party of order—a phrase which we use in its old-fashioned sense of twenty odd years ago—we mean the Tory or anti-Democratic party. The people of England, said the Duke of Wellington, are naturally quiet; and if they are not, there is a way to make them. We all know what this means; and the dullest must have noticed, or at least may notice, that at the present day there are two currents of feeling at work in relation to popular activity. One of them involves a tendency to lay increased stress upon what is called the will of the people; the other a tendency to prevent that will from expressing itself in any but stereotyped forms. In Committees of both Houses there has for years been a growing inclination to take the side of large corporations, to put down everything exceptional, and to favour the absorption of little interests into large ones. Everywhere increased stringency and arbitrariness are the rule; and we do not hesitate to say that an immense amount of injustice has lately been committed in almost every court of judgment and inquiry in the kingdom, just out of an inclination to pool-pool small concerns, and turn a willing ear to interests that present themselves in masses, especially if any kind of public order is the plea. This is a very large subject, and much detailed proof would be required to substantiate the above statement if we were to discuss it fully; but of the fact we have no doubt.

The case is very simple. We hear a great deal of talk about intimidating the Government. But either this is a free country or it is not—that is to say, it is a country in which the people choose their rulers, and decide what is to be done by them, or it is a country in which the rulers have in some way the right to enforce their own views of things, whoever objects. It is of no use to allege that when rulers are once elected, they may do as they like within what are called constitutional limits; and, as a matter of fact, public feeling and opinion bring themselves to bear upon Governments in this country mainly by extra-constitutional methods—in plain English, by intimidation. As Mr. Mill has said, the countries in which the people are allowed to show their power are just the countries in which they are never called upon to use it. There have been within living memory numerous cases in which no means, consistent with what we may suppose to be a policeman's idea of public order, were open to the people for expressing their opinion in matters in which time was everything. To pretend the contrary is a disgraceful falsehood. There is not the least doubt that the demonstration of the matchmakers, the other day, had the effect it was intended to have—namely, that it served as the index of a dissatisfaction of which those poor people were the centre. It was clearly intended to intimidate somebody; and it was right and proper that somebody should be intimidated. We are sorry to add—having been in the midst of the turmoil from the first, and having minutely observed all which took place—that the police, without exception, behaved, under our eyes, in a manner which is totally new to English life, and which, in our opinion, carries with it evil auguries of a kind which point to a partial neutralisation of other influences, which seem to work just now in the direction of social and political freedom.

ST. ALBAN'S ABBEY.—A meeting was recently held at 14, Great Stanhope-street, to take into consideration the present condition of St. Alban's Abbey, at which Lord Verulam took the chair, Lord Cowper, K.G., the Bishop of Rochester, the Hon. Henry Cowper, M.P.; Mr. Abel Smith, M.P.; Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P.; Mr. Robert Dimsdale, M.P.; the Ven. Archdeacon Grant, and Mr. Robert Hanbury being present. A report from Mr. G. G. Scott, R.A., was read, stating, among other particulars, that the central tower of the abbey was in great danger, and that many other parts of the fabric required immediate attention. It was proposed and carried unanimously—1, That the reparation of the abbey be undertaken, as far as possible, in accordance with Mr. Scott's report; 2, that a subscription list be opened, subscriptions to be spread over five years, if so desired. Those present were formed into a committee, with power to add to their number. Lord Verulam consented to act as treasurer, and Mr. H. J. Toulmin and the Rev. W. J. Lawrence, Rector of St. Alban's, were appointed secretaries. It is estimated by Mr. Scott that the sum of £42,650 is required for the reparation of the abbey, exclusive of all internal fittings, restoration of screens, tombs, &c., of which £26,048 is considered by him to be absolutely "necessary work." This does not include architect's commission and other contingencies. It is proposed to hold a public meeting in London early in the ensuing summer.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN is, according to the most recent arrangements, expected to leave Osborne for Windsor about Tuesday next, May 2.

THE PRINCE OF WALES, on behalf of her Majesty, held a Levée at St. James's Palace on Wednesday. It was numerously attended, and there were about 150 presentations.

THE EMPEROR WILLIAM has decided not to allow the erection of any statue of himself during his lifetime.

LORD PENANCE has been suddenly taken ill. The business in the Court of Probate and Divorce had to be postponed on Thursday in consequence.

VICE-CHANCELLOR MAIRNS, last Saturday, ordered the Whitehall and Waterloo Railway, the Union Engineering, and the Devonshire Silkstone Coal Companies, together with the Copper Mixers' Company of South Australia, to be wound up.

THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE was entertained, last Saturday, at Arbroath, by his tenants. Referring to the game laws, he said he would not interfere with the freedom of contract; but he would alter the law so as to enable the tenant to recover damages in the county court without appeal from the judgment. He would exclude rabbits from the game list in the interest of the farmers.

MR. JUSTICE MELLOR took occasion to complain, last Saturday, of the great inconvenience caused in the Court of Queen's Bench through the place of Mr. Justice Hayes not having been filled up. The late Judge has now been dead nearly a year and a half.

MICHAEL CAMPBELL, the murderer of Mr. Galloway at Stratford, was executed, on Monday morning, within the walls of Springfield Gaol, the county gaol for Essex.

SENTENCE OF DEPRIVATION pronounced against the Rev. Charles Voysey, Vicar of Healding, by the Judicial Committee, has been issued from the Appeal Registry, and will be forthwith exhibited on the church doors at Healding, as well as served personally on the defendant.

THE TREASURY RECEIPTS in the first three weeks of the financial year amounted to £1,627,954, and the expenditure to £6,331,798. Of the latter sum, more than £5,600,000 was for interest on the National Debt. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £3,272,796.

THE IRISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH, which is now busily employed in making the laws and regulations which are hereafter to govern it, has in a comprehensive canon settled all present and future controversy on the subject of vestments. The black gown is legalised, and stoles are abolished.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF THE EARL OF ORKNEY was before Mr. Registrar Spring Rice on Saturday. The sitting was to have been devoted to the public examination of his Lordship, but on the understanding that an arrangement with the creditors was likely to be made further proceedings were adjourned for five weeks.

A MAN NAMED JAMES GREGORY, living at Tintwistle, Cheshire, on returning home from his work on Monday night, found that his wife had cut the throat of one of his children, drowned another a week old in a bucket, and then committed suicide by hanging herself. The woman, who was about thirty years of age, has been for some time past in a despondent state of mind.

A CROWDED MEETING in favour of the disestablishment of the English Church was held on Monday night, under the presidency of Mr. John Crossley, at Halifax. A resolution condemnatory of the union of the Church with the State, and declaring it to be just and expedient that the Episcopal Church of England and Wales and the Presbyterian Church of Scotland should be disestablished and disendowed, was adopted. It was also decided to send to Parliament a petition approving of Mr. Mill's motion.

A GRAND FANCY BAZAAR, under the patronage of the Princess of Wales, Princess Louise, and many of the leading ladies of the nobility, is to be held by permission of the Duke of Wellington, at his Riding School, "Kilgobbin," on May 10, 11, and 12, in aid of the National Hospital for Consumption (Ventnor). Contributions of articles of any description will be gratefully received by Mr. Neale F. Horne, secretary, 2, Adelphi-terrace, Strand.

IN THE MINORITY OF FORTY-NINE who supported the motion of Mr. Wren Huxson declaring that the present law of land settlement is opposed to public policy, were Lord F. C. Cavendish, second son of the Duke of Devonshire; Mr. Auberon Herbert, brother to the Earl of Carnarvon; Mr. Locke King, second son of the late Lord King; and Mr. C. F. Villiers, uncle to the Earl of Clarendon.

ARTHUR FOULDSHAM, alias Roland Meredith, was again brought up at the Highgate Police Court, on Monday, charged with a violent assault upon the keeper of a beerhouse at Hornsey. The prosecutor, although in an improved condition, was still unable to appear, and the prisoner was once more remanded.

THREE GIRLS, inmates of the Manchester Workhouse, at Crumpsall, have been killed by their nurse administering carbolic acid in mistake for cough mixture. The girls became ill, and died within three hours, notwithstanding all that could be done for them by three medical gentlemen who attended. A nurse who partook of the supposed medicine lies in a very precarious condition.

JOHN GOODIER, seven years of age, a boarder at the Mottram-in-Lengdale Grammar School, was, on Monday, put into a bath by Oliver Whittle, a fellow-pupil, sixteen years of age; but the water was so hot that the little fellow's skin peeled off as soon as he was taken out. He was placed under the care of a local surgeon, but he succumbed, and died in great agony. His parents reside in Manchester.

THE UNDENOMINATIONAL PARTY at OXFORD, who were defeated at the recent school-board election for that city, are, we are informed, starting an elementary school for boys—Professor Max Müller; the Rev. G. W. Kitchen, M.A., Christ Church; Professor Clifton, Mr. Robert Hawkins, the Rev. D. Martin, Mr. Henry S. Underhill, and other gentlemen, having formed themselves into a committee of management. Denominational instruction will be strictly excluded from this school.

GENERAL SIR EDWARD SABINE, K.C.B., the President of the Royal Society, gave his second and last conversation at the rooms of the society, in Burlington House, last Saturday evening. Among the company present were the Lord Chancellor, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Justice James, Baron Cleary, the Queen's Advocate, Mr. Justice Keating, the Italian Minister, and the Spanish Minister. Among the many objects of interest exhibited, perhaps the most generally attractive were two working models of Captain Moncrieff's guns—one for land and the other for sea service. The latter was fired in the corridor at a late period of the evening.

DURING THE BUDGET SPEECH, the other evening, a slip of paper (says the *Pall Mall Gazette*) was passed along the Ministerial bench to Mr. Gladstone, on which was written the following words—some people attribute them to the Home Secretary, others to Mr. Ayrton:—

"Fiat Lux"—dixit Deus

(Beata est vox)

"Fiat Lux"—dixit Robertus,

A' halfpenny a box.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ART-UNION was held on Tuesday. The report stated that the depression in trade and the war had caused a falling off in the amount of subscriptions, which this year is £10,171 7s. Of that £5040 is allotted for prizes; and £2681 2s. 10d. is the cost of the prints, &c. The reserve fund now amounts to £15,741. The prizes now distributed include one work of art at £200; two at £150; two at £100; two at £75; three at £60; four at £50; besides nearly one hundred of smaller value.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER concluded his sermon at the consecration of a church, the other day, with the following anecdote:—A few weeks ago they had in Manchester a week of special services, held in six churches in the most densely populated parts of the city, and at these services all the seats were free to those who chose to occupy them. One evening a gentleman at one of these meetings saw two working men, and told them to go to any pew in which they could get seats. They took their places in a pew, and soon afterwards a lady came and asked them, "What do you want there? that's my seat." One of the men said to the other, "Come along Bill; let's be off. I told you this was too swell a place." He (the Bishop) left his audience to draw their own inference.

MONEY ORDERS.—On May 1 next, and thenceforward, the present scale of charges on the issue of inland money orders will be discontinued, and the following scale will come into operation:—For sums under 10s., 1d. commission; of 10s. and under £1, 2d.; of £1 and under £2, 3d.; of £2 and under £3, 4d.; of £3 and under £4, 5d.; of £4 and under £5, 6d.; of £5 and under £6, 7d.; of £6 and under £7, 8d.; of £7 and under £8, 9d.; of £8 and under £9, 10d.; of £9 and under £10, 11d.; of £10, 1s. The above scale does not apply to orders issued on the colonies and foreign countries, the present charges on which will remain unaltered. They are as follow:—For orders payable in Belgium and Switzerland, not exceeding £2, 3s.; exceeding £2 and not exceeding £5, 6d.; exceeding £5 and not exceeding £7, 9d.; exceeding £7 and not exceeding £10, 1s. For orders payable in North Germany, or at Alexandria, Cairo, Constantinople, Gibraltar, Malta, or Suez, not exceeding £2, 9d.; exceeding £2 and not exceeding £5, 1s. 6d.; exceeding £5 and not exceeding £7, 2s. 3d.; exceeding £7 and not exceeding £10, 3s. For orders payable at all other places abroad with which money-order business is transacted, not exceeding £2, 1s.; exceeding £2 and not exceeding £5, 2s.; exceeding £5 and not exceeding £7, 3s.; exceeding £7 and not exceeding £10, 4s.

## THE CEDED AND OCCUPIED DISTRICTS OF FRANCE.

We this week publish a map of the North-East of France, which we are sure will be studied with great interest, as it shows the serious loss of territory, and the severe pressure upon her resources by the occupation of still more, which France has incurred by the imprudent challenge she threw out to Germany last July. Using the ancient geographical nomenclature, the ceded districts embrace the whole of Alsace, except Belfort, and a considerable portion of Lorraine, including the ancient free city of Metz. It may perhaps be more convenient, however, to employ the modern designations, and to say that two entire departments (those of the Upper and Lower Rhine, except Belfort in the former) and portions of two others (those of the Meurthe and the Moselle) cease to belong to France, and have once more become incorporated with Germany, of which they anciently formed a part. Considerable, however, as is the territory ceded, it is but small as compared with that still occupied by the German troops. Beginning on the north, the districts to be held till the whole war indemnity is paid include the Ardennes, the Meuse, the Marne, the Meurthe, and the Vosges; while the departments wholly or partially occupied till the first instalment is delivered include the Somme, the Lower Seine, the Aisne, the Oise and the Seine-et-Marne—thus stretching from the English Channel on the north-west up to the walls of Paris, and on to the new frontier on the north-east. The limits of the cession to Germany are thus defined by art. 1 of the Preliminaries of Peace:—

"France renounces, in favour of the German empire, all her rights and titles over the territories situated to the east of the frontier hereafter designated. The line of demarcation commences at the north-west frontier of the canton of Cattenom, towards the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; thence follows towards the south-western frontiers of the canton of Cattenom and Thionville, passes by the canton of Briey, going along the western frontiers of the communes of Montois-la-Montagne and Roncourt, as well as the eastern frontiers of the communes of Marie-aux-Chênes and Habonville; strikes the frontier of the canton of Gorze, which it traverses along the communal frontiers of Vionville, Bussières, and Waville; follows the south-west and southern frontier of the arrondissement of Metz, the western frontier of the arrondissement of Château Salins, as far as the commune of Pettoncourt, until it embraces the western and southern frontiers—to follow the crest of the mountains between the Seille and the Moselle as far as the frontier of the arrondissement of Sarrebourg to the south of La Garde. The demarcation afterwards coincides with the frontier of that arrondissement as far as the commune of Tanconville, the front of which it strikes to the north. Thence it follows the crest of the mountains between the sources of the Seille, Blanche, and the Vezouze as far as the frontiers of the canton Scherneck; runs along the western frontier of that canton; embraces the communes of Saales, Bourg, Bruche, Colroy-la-Roche, Plaine, Ranrupt, Saulxures, and St. Blaise-la-Roche, in the canton of Saales, and coincides with the western frontier of the department of the Bas Rhin and of the Haut Rhin as far as the canton of Belfort, the southern frontier of which it quits not far from Vourvenans, to traverse the canton of Delle at the southern bounds of the communes of Burogne and Froide Fontaine, and to strike the Swiss frontier by passing along the southern borders of the communes of Juchery and Delle.

"The German empire will possess these territories in perpetuity, in all sovereignty and property. An international commission, composed of representatives of the high contracting parties in equal number, will be charged, immediately after the exchange of the ratifications of the treaty, to carry out upon the territory the tracing of the new frontier conformably to the preceding stipulations. This commission will preside over the division of properties, funds, and capitals which hitherto have belonged in common to districts and communes separated by the new frontier."

The chief towns and fortresses added to Germany by this cession are Metz, Thionville, Sarrebourg, Schelestadt, Neu-Brisach, Phalsburg, Sarrebourg, Sarrewerden, Lützelstein, Forbach, Bitsche, Haguenau, Weissenburg, and Sarreguemines. The population of Alsace, exceeding one million, consists in the rural districts mostly of German-speaking peasantry, and there are many of German race in the hilly parts of East Lorraine; but the townsfolk are French, nor are there wanting colonies of French settlers in the hamlets of the Vosges mountains, with Germans close beside them. Alsace, which in German is called Elsass, was formerly part of the ancient German Empire, being the principality of the Bishop of Strasbourg, from whom it was wrongfully taken by Louis XIV. two hundred years ago. Lorraine, or Lothringen as the Germans call it, was also the territory of an ecclesiastical Sovereign, who was a vassal of the German Empire, till it was conquered by the French in the reign of Charles V. The portion of Lorraine now ceded to Germany, including the city of Metz, has about 360,000 inhabitants.

As regards the payment of the first instalment of the indemnity, and the consequent redemption of one large slice of territory, there are conflicting rumours afloat. On one hand it is said that, though the money is ready, M. Thiers delays payment in order to keep the Germans in possession of the districts adjoining Paris until the troops at the command of the Government are ready to replace those of the Emperor William; while, on the other hand, it is asserted that the cash is not forthcoming, and that consequently the Germans "hold on." The first statement has probably in it a good deal of truth, as it would be manifestly "inconvenient" for M. Thiers that the Germans should retire too soon, and so afford the soldiers of the Commune an opportunity of seizing the forts on the east and north of the capital as they were permitted to get possession of some of those on the south and west.

There seems to be some foundation for the impecunious statement too, however, for we find the *Versailles Journal Officiel*, in contradicting as fabulous a statement of a Communal journal that, in consequence of the 500 millions having been paid, all the forts held by the Prussians, about Paris were to have been delivered over to the Versailles on Sunday last, using these words:—"The writers in the *Verité* wilfully abuse public credulity. They well know that until the insurrection of which they are the champions be put down, the Government of the Republic cannot efficaciously resort to credit, and that the forts on the right bank of the Seine will remain in the hands of the Prussians."

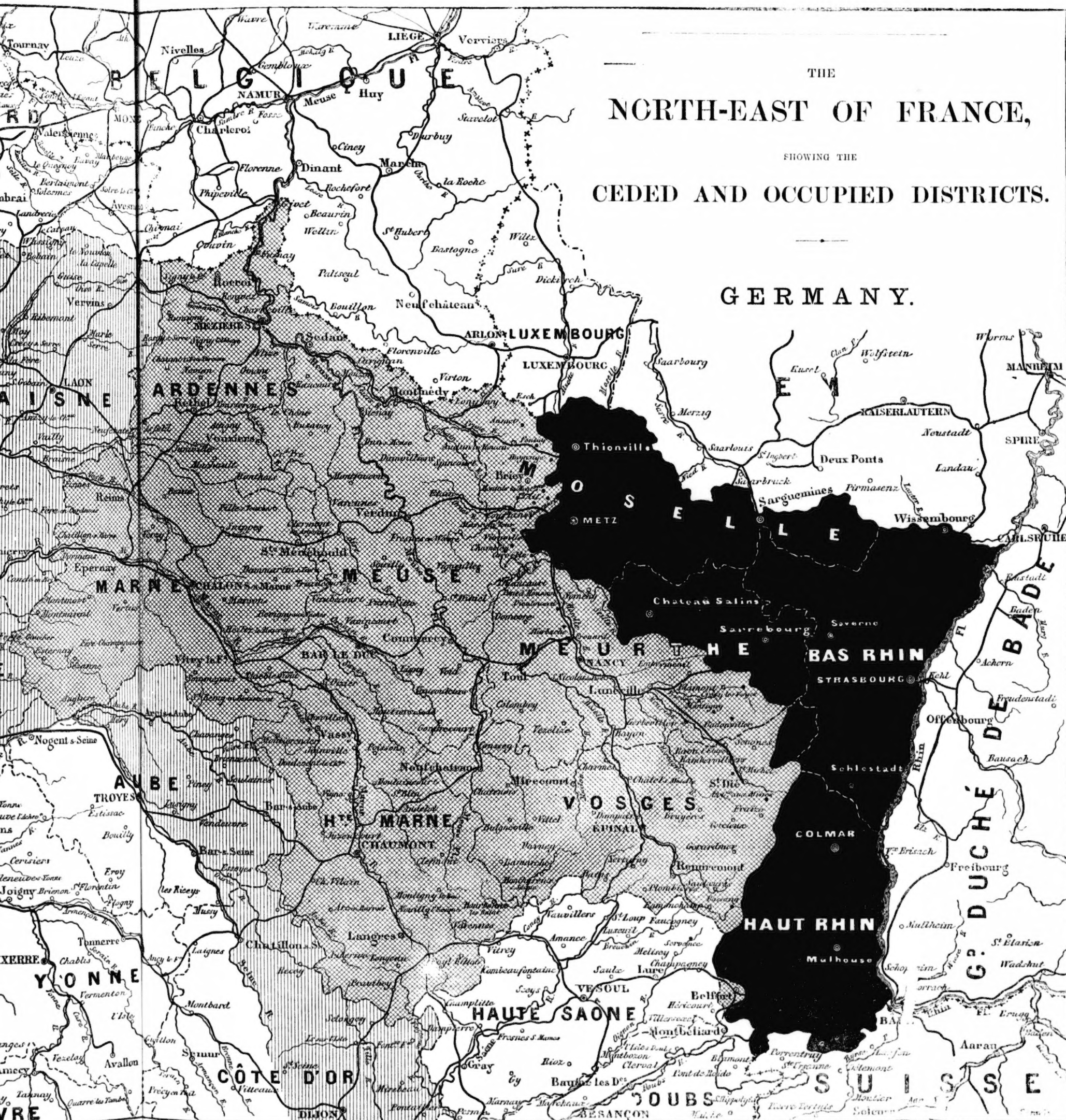
A SHOCKING ACCIDENT occurred, on Wednesday, at Bristol. A number of workmen were engaged in lowering a heavy iron casting at the floating harbour, when the ponderous mass canted over, and, falling upon the men, killed three upon the spot and seriously injured four others.

CATHOLICS AND PROTESTANTS IN FRANCE.—Talking of the priests reminds me of a point which I have often wished to touch upon, and that is, the friendly feeling which exists here between Protestants and Roman Catholics. In England, where the religious feeling is strong, and where infidelity in its extreme development is little known, the various sects of Christianity have a very lively appreciation of their points of difference one from another. There are Protestants who speak of Catholics as if they were worse than infidels, and the greatest enemies of the human race. There are Catholics who speak of Protestants as if they were worse than heathens, and deserve the double stripes due to those who know the right and do the wrong. In England infidelity seldom goes beyond scepticism—we doubt and we know not what to believe. In France, infidelity is much more than scepticism—it is fiercely dogmatic; and it not merely denies the Christian faith—it denies all religion—it is atheistic. In the midst of such a society, Catholics and Protestants are much more alive than we are in England to their points of agreement, and often make common cause together. Individual priests live on the most friendly terms with Protestant Ministers; and the Archbishop of Paris himself has warm friends among the Protestant ministers, whom he will go to visit and consult. During the siege the Protestants had an ambulance of their own, separate from the Catholics, but they worked quite in harmony. A Catholic priest on the field of battle would send for a Protestant minister to attend to Protestants; and "synagogically," as M. Pyat would say, the Protestant ministers would send for the priest when the wounded was a Catholic. So also when the Archbishop of Paris was put into prison the other day, the Protestant ministers instantly made common cause with him, and were foremost in protesting against the outrage.—*Daily News Correspondent.*









THE  
NORTH-EAST OF FRANCE,  
SHOWING THE  
CEDED AND OCCUPIED DISTRICTS.  
GERMANY.



Portion to be occupied till the Indemnity is paid.



Portion ceded to Germany.



## THE LOUNGER.

The *Pall Mall* of Monday says that Mr. White denounced the Estimates of this year as inordinate and excessive for "being half a million beyond the sum which Mr. Bright, on becoming a Minister of the Crown, declared to be sufficient for all purposes." This is not true, nor anything like the truth. Mr. White said:—"Whilst a Liberal Government now requires £72,395,000, their late colleague, Mr. Bright, told his constituents, after he had accepted office, that no Government is deserving of the support of the people which cannot carry on the administration of the country for a smaller sum than £70,000,000." There was, too, a mistake in the *Times* report of the member for Brighton's speech which it is right to correct. That report makes Mr. White say that every Government employed appeared to act upon three cardinal principles—come as late as you can, go as early as you can, do as little as you can. He, however, said not every employé, but every ordinary Government employé.

The following is from a review of Lowell's "My Study Window," in the *Athenaeum* of the 26th:—"The highest members of the (English) aristocracy forget that they are gentlemen when dealing with the natives of the United States. Mr. Lowell cites an instance of a young nobleman, now a Cabinet Minister, who, at the time of the life-and-death struggle in the States, wore a Secession badge at a public ball in New York. 'In a civilised country he might have been roughly handled.' Fancy an Englishman wearing a Prussian badge at a Paris ball last season! But here, where the bienséances are not so well understood, of course no man minded it. One of Mr. Lincoln's neatest strokes of humour was his treatment of this gentleman—that is, insolent cub with a handle to his name (remember, I am quoting). When a laudable curiosity induced him to be presented to the President of the Broken Bubble, Mr. Lincoln persisted in calling him Mr. Partington. Surely, the refinement of good breeding could go no further. Giving this young man his real name (already notorious in the newspapers) would have made his visit an insult. Had Henri IV. done this it would have been famous." Can this be true? Knowing something of "Mr. Partington," I must doubt it, and especially when I remember that "Mr. Partington" had been, and probably was then, a Minister of the Crown. But if it be not true, he ought to contradict it publicly.

The mention of the States calls to my mind a conversation that I had the other day with a gentleman who has lately travelled much in America, and done business with the publishers there. The topic of our conversation was international copyright. The American Government has persistently refused even to consider proposals for an international copyright. But if we could get one, what would happen? An American publisher says this would happen. "The sales of English books," he says, "are so much larger here than they are in the English market, that we could afford to give English authors far more than the English publishers can. Longman sold some 7000 or 8000 copies of 'Lothair,' and this the English people thought surprising; but Appleton sold 60,000 in four or five months. If we had an international copyright we should beat the English publishers out of our market, and also out of their own." This is the American publisher's notion; and my English friend thinks that it would be so. The American publishers have, he says, more capital at command, a much larger public, and are far more enterprising. They are pushing their books into our colonies, and have a demand for school-books even in Japan.

Whilst I am writing there is a good deal of excitement in the Liberal ranks and uneasiness in the Government, as there well may be. On Monday Mr. Disraeli did not show fight: he was not prepared. But on the following night he placed upon the paper a real fighting motion; and before this article can get into the hands of your readers we may be in the midst of a Ministerial crisis. But hardly so. A party fight can surely not be settled in one night. The debate on the new Budget will probably be adjourned to Monday. Presuming, then, that this will be so, let us speculate upon what may happen. On Wednesday evening it was quite upon the cards that Disraeli's amendment will be carried; and if this should be, what next?—and next? Disraeli said, on Monday, that a Government defeat on a finance question does not imply a want of confidence, and need not lead to a resignation of Ministers. But what if Gladstone, in his pride, should decide differently? In that case, Mr. Disraeli would be sent for; but clearly he could not take the helm, with such a majority against him, and, as this is his Parliament, he has no right to ask her Majesty to dissolve. But if her Majesty should offer to do so, and Disraeli should go to the country? What then? Well, it is a prevalent opinion in the House that with all the liquor interest against the Liberals, Gladstone's majority would vanish; but all this is mere speculation. But if this storm blows over, there are others ahead.

## A LOUNGER AT TORQUAY.

It boots not to inquire—there is a relish about that phrase, Sir, which induces me to repeat it. It boots not to inquire how your Lounger should be able, in the very first blush and budding rose tint of the London season, to address you from one of those queens of watering-places which in England are so numerous that they may be said to constitute an anti-salio Royal Republic. It may have been a commission to explore the renowned bone cavern which the vulgar would call Kent's hole, but that there are no vulgar at Torquay. We are all the pink and pattern of life, and though the short season is nearly over, and a good many truck-loads of portmanteaus, bags, and boxes go daily to the railway station, the few of us who are left perform our daily tasks with a serene consciousness of owing to the world no unexecuted duty. These tasks consist mostly of that forenoon promenade along "the Strand" and the shop-fronts of the Parade, which the lighter spirits have called walking the Zoo, and those of more developed symmetry of proportion pantingly speak of as toasting on the gridiron or going to the fry-pan. Then there is the necessary adjustment of the button-hole flower, the saunter to the fair marchande de bouquets, of whom somebody has said—

How doth the little busy P,  
Improve each shining hour,  
And gather money all the day  
From ever opening flower;

and then people begin to think about luncheon.

There is no shopping at Torquay; nor, indeed, are the shops particularly attractive. When I say no shopping, I mean, of course, that visitors actually go and buy anything they may want in quite an ordinary way. There is no rustle of silks and muslins about the doors; no barking of pet dogs and yawning of calofried footmen; no assiduous shopmen driven to the verge of distraction by ex-tin-g eyes that are eager "to look at something else." The biggest establishment in the place is, I think, devoted to the sale of brandy and grocery, neither of which can be said to offer charming varieties to more than two of our five senses.

I have always understood, Sir, that Torquay was a climate particularly adapted for delicate chests. You hear the delicate chests go panting up the hills here, and begin to wonder how they manage it. The alternations of temperature, too, seem to me to be trying. Sauntering along a charming wooded road, with a fresh breeze blowing from the bay, you turn down a by-way and find yourself quite suddenly in a warm corner that reminds you of the top of King William-street, London Bridge—that being, I think, the hottest spot in the great metropolis when there is any summer's sun. Turn round again, and you catch a cool draught from the harbour, and wish you had brought a mackintosh. It's a remarkable place for such vicissitudes. As to its products, they seem to consist mostly of chickens and rather weedy asparagus; these you see (the chickens, I mean) carelessly suspended together with a peculiarly thin sausage (for

which Torquay ought to be justly celebrated) from many shop windows when you take your walks abroad. There is, of course, the assembly-room, at which few people ever have an opportunity to assemble, since little is done there even by such transitional entertainers as flit across the fashionable horizon. There is, however, another assembly-room—a big, seedy, cane-chaired, ballyrd, dingy place, with one coat of whitish paint, and a platform scarcely converted into a stage—where thirty-five people go nightly to witness the "Ticket-of-Leave Man" and "Bombastes Furioso" by a dramatic company which would do credit to a better building, and really make most praiseworthy efforts to ignore the beggarly account of empty benches. But society here is small and early—small, that is, numerically—and not given to night entertainments. Then, again, the drama, perhaps, exacts too much attention to become popular. We are all loungers; and during the present season a wonderful opportunity has been provided for indulging in that pleasant propensity for doing nothing which mostly characterises us. A great steam-yacht has somehow found its way from northern waters to this balmy southern coast. When society saw the Royal Yacht Squadron flag flying, and noted that the Northumbria meant to moor in the harbour, there were such approving whispers as might be supposed to pass among a knot of eminent naturalists if a superb mammoth were suddenly seen gambolling on a contiguous hill. There has been quite a real interest among us ever since; and at that futile period of the day between the after-luncheon sleep and the hour before the first dinner-bell we all go down to the breakwater to listen to the playing of her crew, who form a wind band, and waken the echoes of those hills which, when we were all a good deal younger, trended downward to the shore, but are now covered with villas and intersected with puzzling roads, all abloom with sweet flowering shrubs and melodious with the notes of birds. Those of us who are recognised as belonging to the charmed lounging circle have the gig sent off to fetch us aboard (it is a charming occupation to be rowed by a muscular and skilful boat's crew); and after we are assisted to reach the deck, we really begin to realise what yachting is. There are vast opportunities on the deck of a large vessel (at anchor) for displaying all those fashionable amenities which distinguish this most aristocratic retreat. Flirting may proceed even among married people with a sublime audacity sanctioned by publicity and the sense of fugitive freedom inseparable from sitting on folding stools and great leather deck-cushions, and from wearing an odd mixture of several costumes at one time.

But society here has hailed the Northumbria parties as the hitherto uncompassed means of lounging in company. We have had many visitors, too, who really have some claim to rest and be thankful. Transatlantic cousins—the men with that gentle, simple courtesy which distinguishes the American gentleman; the women bright, quick, and with a straightforward ease of manner at first surprising to our reserved disposition, but with an inexpressible fresh charm in it. Frenchmen who, with some of the Americans also, have but lately left beleaguered Paris, and, after the *menu* of the siege, find here what an observant fellow-lounger has called "a perpetual paradise of lunches." I haven't observed that the French or the American visitors are as accomplished loungers or as bold and even defiant flirts as my own dear countrymen and countrywomen; but then they are on their dignity, and know, with the rest of us, that the season is now too short for founding a reputation, or even for losing one.

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

Everybody knows *Vanity Fair* and those extraordinary caricatures of public men by Signor Pellegrini, who signs himself "Ape;" and most people know that, after consideration, Lord Charles Russell, Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Commons, has given the artist leave to haunt the lobby. Of course, Signor Pellegrini can only have one object, and we know that he is fond of sketching people in their hats. But surely he does not neglect such opportunities as the committee-rooms afford him? True, most of the members doff their hats in those rooms; but some wear them. In any case they enter with their hats on, and the opportunity for leisurely examination afforded by their long stay in the room—to say nothing of the fact that they often lunch there and get into quaint altercations with the witnesses—is too good to be neglected by an artist with a purpose.

In one of the magazines Mr. Arthur Helps has just written a capital paper entitled "How We are All Neglected." The title speaks for itself. A man gets into trouble. He does not hear a word of sympathy from the very friends to whom he might most naturally look for it. He fumes and fidgets, and runs down human nature; but he is all wrong, and, after a short time, discovers that each of these friends had been thinking about him and his trouble; though one, perhaps, was shy (for some subtle reason or other) of coming forward at the time, while others were pre-occupied. In other words, Mr. Helps reminds us that, however fast life may go with ourselves, it may be going equally fast with others. We fancy that A, B, and C ought to take some notice of a crisis in our own affairs when each of them, perhaps, has had a crisis too—a severe personal struggle, a marriage in the family, a death, or what not. Besides which there is all that nameless, indescribable, but severe pre-occupation which comes to most men with advancing years, an increasing circle of friends and deepening responsibilities. So far Mr. Helps is successful, and though the lesson taught is one that all except fools learn with time, experience, and a little pain, it is all the better that receptive and docile people should have the chance of learning it in an easier way, and as early in life as possible. But when Mr. Helps comes to deal with neglect in literature and to indulge in certain generalities, he is less successful. In fact, he repeats a frequent fault of his—namely, of re-stating a fact in fresh terms, and fancying that he has palliated even to the imagination the evil of it. But these things are not so. He mentions as an example the unwillingness of the public to consider fairly any attempt of an author in an unaccustomed line of literature; and he says truly that the public, after having given a man the praise they think he deserves for his efforts in a certain sphere, do not like to have their fixed ideas broken in upon by an invitation to consider his claims in a new sphere. The obvious answer to this is, Very likely not; but what then? It is very stupid of the public, for there is no law of nature which makes it improbable that a man should have two veins; and if A, having played in farce, comes forward to try tragedy, why is he not to receive as candid a hearing as if he had been B, a new man? We know he does not, as a rule, receive anything of the kind; but there is no use in stating this fact in quite fresh terms and pretending you have taken the edge off.

In the *Contemporary Review*, under the heading of "The Franco-German War," Mazzini writes one of the sanest and least-exciting articles that the war has produced. He says:—"Neither for Europe nor Italy do I fear the consequences of the German victory." But he adds, "I do, from long experience, fear the irrational discouragement which always follows the destruction of an illusion, however well-merited its fall." In "Congregationalism and the Church of England," the Rev. Llewellyn Davies gains an easy victory over some recent Non-conformist writers. It serves them right that the Churchmen can gain such victories; for the Dissenters have long ago forsaken the only right method of dealing with the question—that is to say, they have quitted the solid ground of abstract principle, and taken to the bog-land or fog-land of "historic continuity." There has also been a great deal of utterly worldly coquetting between the two sides of late, though it has been masked under the name of "Christian Charity." I well remember the late Dean Alford driving Mr. Conder up into a corner in a way which was utterly ignominious by challenging him to carry out his principles to their logical consequence, or to drop his political dissent. The fact is, Mr. Conder and the rest would not like to do either. The most novel paper of the number is by Mr. Walter Bagehot,

on "The Emotion of Conviction." But the Rev. John Hunt, on the Miserable Scandal in Convocation about Mr. Vance Smith, must be uncomfortable reading for the Bishop of Winchester and the other mitted bigots who led or shared in the attack; at least, it would be so if people like the Bishop of Winchester could reason. It seems to me that the paper by Dr. Lionel S. Beale on "Physical Life Theories and Religious Thought," is mainly useful as showing in one more instance the effect of words which are merely masks for our ignorance. As we know nothing about what we call "spirit," and nothing about what we call "matter"—that is to say, as we know no more of one than we do of the other—there is no sense whatever in saying that the production of "life" from "inanimate" matter would overthrow any conclusion whatever. The Rev. John Service on "The Spiritual Theory of Another Life" is very long-winded, and says very little beyond what is obvious. Dean Merivale has a rather alarmist paper on "The Classical Pronunciation of Latin." There is a great deal of unnecessary fuss made upon this subject, and the difference between Caesar and Kassar is not vital; but it seems desirable that the pronunciation should be uniform. It has been a constant inconvenience in Europe that scholars passing from one country to another, and not well up in modern languages, could not very well make each other understood in Latin.

The *Popular Science Review* is as good as usual, and your readers know that it is admirably edited. Dr. Maxwell T. Masters contributes an exceedingly interesting paper on "Grafting: Its Consequences and Effects." The summary and the reviews are also very good. It is not, perhaps, generally known, and, as Dr. Masters says, it has been extensively denied, that plants of different species can be united. Not by grafting proper, however; for in the graft the parasite derives its nourishment from the stock, while in the other cases the joined plant gets its own food in its own way.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Perhaps the greatest success since Easter-time has been made at the ADELPHI—a theatre which, in old days, used to be looked upon as the acknowledged home of exciting drama. An "Adelphi drama," a few years ago, was a well-known password; and those who availed themselves of it were rarely disappointed. Messrs. Webster and Chatterton certainly did well to revert to the *specialité* of the old house. They have attempted, for some time past, to obtain an interest for a somewhat mongrel entertainment. First, comedy would be tried; then light French comediettas; then a form of opera bouffe; and, lastly, burlesque in its wildest form. But the public would not be shaken in its belief that the Adelphi was the home for farce and melodrama; and the new management appreciates the wisdom of consulting the wishes of the public. Nothing ruins theatrical property so much as constantly changing the form of entertainment. One theatre is appreciated for its music, another for its burlesque, a third for its comedy, and a fourth for its drama. The Adelphi, when it reverts to its old programme, at once obtains the votes of an old Adelphi constituency. It was well, no doubt, to dramatise Victor Hugo's powerful novel of "Notre Dame de Paris," and it was well to secure such a thoroughly-experienced adaptor as Mr. Andrew Halliday, who in his present version has cleverly caught the interesting points of the story, and has put together, in a workman-like fashion, a sound and interesting play. The novel has been, of course, dramatised before, but scarcely ever so successfully. If those who are interested in the drama are persuaded to turn their attention to the novel and to read it in their leisure hours, the time spent in so doing will scarcely be wasted. It is intensely dramatic; and of all the dramatic scenes in the book none is more exciting than that one which Mr. Halliday has chosen for his great sensation, and of which we are enabled to present a sketch this week. Nobody must run away with the notion that the great scene in any way resembles the daub which is allowed to disfigure the exterior of the Adelphi. This illumination is, I take it, a bad advertisement, rather than a catch, for the theatre. I have seen better things outside a Richardsonian show. Our Artist—if I may say so—has certainly been happier in his illustration of the great scene of the play. There is hardly need, surely, for me to tell how Esmeralda, the gipsy girl, is persecuted by the unwelcome addresses of Claude Frollo, the priest, who attempts, but in vain, to supplant the gallant young Captain of Archers, Phoebeus, in her affections. The gipsy girl is watched over by the hideous hunchback Quasimodo, who has been the shadow of Claude Frollo, but who at last throws over his master for the sake of his wild and idolatrous passion for Esmeralda. The scene depicted is that one in which Frollo has pursued his unwelcome addresses so far that it is necessary for Quasimodo to save Esmeralda from further insult. This he does by hurling Frollo from the belfry of Notre Dame. This is, of course, a great sensational effect, and with it—virtue being in the ascendant and vice crushed—Mr. Halliday very wisely terminates his play. The acting to be found in the drama is, on the whole, very creditable. True, Mr. T. C. King, a tragedian of some merit, is not an ideal Quasimodo, his make up and bearing not being quite satisfactory; but he has a fine rich voice, and a style which, to say the least of it, is unobjectionable. Both Mr. Fernandez, as Claude Frollo, and Miss Furtado, as Esmeralda, are excellent—the one vigorous and artistic, the other lovable and genuine. The acting of both these characters is highly creditable. Mr. Brittain Wright is slightly too demonstrative in his humour as the poet Pierre Gringoire, and Mrs. Mellon, clever actress as she is, has an unfortunate character with which she can apparently do nothing. The scenery by Mr. Lloyds—one of our best stage artists—could hardly be improved upon; and, take the play as it is, without any pretension beyond that of exciting and amusing an old-fashioned Adelphi audience, it is unquestionably creditable.

The opera-bouffe at the GLOBE, called "Fal-sac-ap-pa" (an alarming title), which is obviously an adaptation of "Les Brigands" of Offenbach, would be all very well if the company engaged was up to the mark. This, unfortunately, is not the case. All that the management could do in the way of expensive decoration and dresses has certainly been done, but in the beautiful scenes we require some action and in the gorgeous dresses we hope to see some talent. The verdict on the night I was at the Globe was not flattering to the new opera. Many did not feel inclined to sit out the last act, and there was a general sense of weariness in the house. A long programme crammed with affectionate diminutives may attract those who have no idea of a higher tone of dramatic art; but if all the young ladies who are known by the diminutives in question are paid according to their deserts, there is no fear of an alarming treasury list to meet every Saturday morning. There are, of course, exceptions. Madlle. Annetta Scasi, for instance, deserves every encouragement. She sings well and acts well, and but for her a far more serious sentence might well have been pronounced on "Fal-sac-ap-pa." Madlle. Cornelia d'Anka has studied one song, but has forgotten to do more for the opera than this. The young men who crowd the stalls will, no doubt, rave about the "symmetry" of this young lady in particular; but, for my own part, I go to the theatre with other objects in view. Symmetry is all very well; but I trust that the theatre is not yet degraded into mere "poses plastiques." The Polish Princess was very nervous, and made no impression at all; and good actors, like Mr. F. Dewar, Mr. Worboys, Mr. St. Albyn, Miss Harriett Coveney, and Miss Nelly Nesbitt were almost wasted. The best effects of the Parisian representation are faithfully copied, the best being the comic army, which deservedly caused a genuine laugh. It would be unfair to pass over in silence the thoroughly praiseworthy libretto by Mr. Henry S. Leigh, an author who has done many good things, but should certainly be persuaded to do more. His book which is used for this opera is well worth the attention of those who complain of the inapplicability of our English language for musical purposes. I followed the songs with the words, and I certainly never before remember to have found words which suited



music so well. Mr. Leigh should, in my opinion, be encouraged to persevere.

Mr. R. Reece has, on the whole, not succeeded so well this time with his ROYALTY burlesque, though of course a burlesque of this class hardly deserves to be criticised. The subject is "Robin Hood," and, at any rate, we cannot grumble at seeing pretty girls in Lincoln green; bright scenery, tasty dresses; Miss Hodson in a dainty costume, and bringing her intelligence to bear even on burlesque; Miss Rachel Sanger, brimming over with merriment; a clever young actor like Mr. A. Bishop condescending to waste his time on a form of art which he must thoroughly despise; dry humourists like Mr. A. Wood and Mr. O. Summers doing their best to make the thing go, to say nothing of songs and dances of the most popular description. There is all the material here for a fanciful author to work with, and I am almost sorry that Mr. Reece has already given up the working of the new patent which seemed to do so uncommonly well at the Olympic. Mr. Reece has no doubt, by this time, heard quite enough of the questionable taste of the topical song, and, perhaps, has come to the conclusion that to caricature popular characters, either by language or in make-up, is not considered quite the thing. However, the burlesque, even as it stands, may amuse many, though it is impossible it can be quoted among Mr. Reece's best works.

Novelties appear to be never-ending. Mr. Sothorn returns to the HAYMARKET this evening (Saturday), and produces a new play by Mr. H. J. Byron, and the last-named popular author appears on Monday in a new drama of his own called "Daisy Farm." Mr. Byron is altogether in the ascendant, for his burlesque of "Orpheus and Eurydice" has been revived, and very successfully, at the STRAND, where, in a character formerly played by Miss Marie Wilton, that promising little actress, Miss Jenny Lee, has again shown that she has a sense of delicacy, as well as humour, quite foreign to the modern burlesque school.

The ALHAMBRA may unquestionably be pronounced the most magnificent theatre in London. It is palatial and grand, and Mr. Strange is able, in the way of ballet spectacles, to outdo all his former efforts, and this is saying a great deal. Such ballets as those now to be seen at the Alhambra Theatre have never been excelled in my time, and I question if the very oldest playgoer can point to anything grander or in better taste. Mr. Strange has always had the pick of the ballet, and very good dancing added to gorgeous *mise-en-scène* is surely not to be despised. Mr. Strange will, perhaps, think it necessary to revise a portion of his programme. Mr. Farnie's operetta is but a sorry affair, and the farce called "Oh! My Head," is not very brilliant. Now here, I think, with a little judicious arrangement and selection opera bouffe might really flourish. But, as it is, the Alhambra Theatre has opened under the happiest auspices, and I am delighted to be able to record a brilliant and unqualified success. There never was a liberal *entrepreneur* who has been so hampered and worried and badly treated as Mr. Strange. I chuckle over the discomfiture of the dog-in-the-manger managers when I find another musical hall turned into a brilliant theatrical speculation. What will the "Theatrical Managers Protective Association" do next? They have no one left to bully. So right has flourished after all, as it always does.

#### THE DEAN OF EXETER, AND OTHERS, ON WAR.

A FEW days ago the Dean of Exeter, Dr. Boyd ("A.K.H.B.") preached a sermon in the cathedral in praise of war! The Dean's opinion is, of course, entitled to some weight, but hardly to an extent sufficient to counterbalance the following testimonies on the same subject:—

Sir Walter Raleigh (a Devonshire worthy) said "that the practices of war are so hateful to God that were not his mercies infinite, it were in vain for those of that profession to hope for any portion of them."

Napoleon said that "war was the business of barbarians."

The Duke of Wellington said that "men who have nice notions of religion have no business to be soldiers."

Sir Harry Smith said "the profession of a soldier was 'a damnable profession.'"

Sir Charles Napier said that "to overcome all feelings of religion is generally the means of making a warrior."

Bishop Jeremy Taylor says, "If men be subjects of Christ's law they can never go to war with each other. As contrary as cruelty is to mercy, tyranny to charity, so is war and bloodshed to the meekness and gentleness of the Christian religion."

Bishop Watson says that "war has principles and practices peculiar to itself, which but ill quadrate with the rules of moral rectitude, and are quite abhorrent from the benignity of Christianity."

Bishop Warburton says, "I look upon war as the blackest mischief ever breathed from hell upon the fair face of this creation."

Archbishop Whately says, "War is a great disgrace to civilised men and Christians."

John Wesley says, "Shall Christians assist the prince of hell, who was a murderer from the beginning, by telling the world of the benefit of war? Shall Protestant publications proclaim to the nations that war is a blessing of Providence?"

Dr. Arnold (of Rugby) says, "Could there by any possibility have been another war in the world if we had accepted the mercies given us? . . . The Sermon on the Mount cannot be read by any good man without the strongest feeling of shame and humiliation, for the contrast between the picture of Christian principles there drawn and the reality he sees around him."

The Rev. Henry Melvill says, "If war would altogether cease, were vital Christianity diffused, then we must regard it as at variance with Christianity, whatever splendours may be thrown around it by its achievements and apologists."

The Rev. Dr. McNeill says, "The Peace Society have reason on their side, they have sound argument on their side, they have Christian principles on their side."

The Rev. J. C. Ryle says, "Men of the most eminent abilities and extensive erudition have never yet produced, nor ever will produce, arguments sufficient to prove that the profession of a soldier is consistent with the profession of Christianity."

CAPTAIN GEORGE TRYON, R.N., has been appointed private Secretary to Mr. Gochen, in the place of Captain Charles S. Stanhope, who has resigned.

SMALLPOX IN LONDON.—It is pointed out by the Registrar-General that the fatal cases of smallpox in London, which in the three previous weeks had been 192, 214, and 265, further rose last week to 276, the highest weekly number that has occurred during the present epidemic. Allowing for the interruption in registration caused by Good Friday and the following Easter holidays, it is evident that the deaths from smallpox have shown a steady increase in the past month. The 276 returned last week were considerably more than double the highest weekly number registered in London during the several epidemics which prevailed during the thirty-one years 1840-70. In consequence of the increase of the epidemic of smallpox in the metropolis, the Admiralty have placed at the disposal of the Metropolitan District Asylums Board a second man-of-war, stationed in the Thames, to be used as a convalescent hospital for smallpox patients. The ship now designated as the companion hospital-ship to the *Dreadnought* is the *Figard*, stationed off Woolwich Dockyard. The Asylums Board are also getting ready further temporary accommodation in the grounds of the Stockwell Hospital.

RUGBY SCHOOL.—In a letter to the Rugby trustees, Mr. Robertson, after pointing out that he was dismissed, first from the school-house tutorship, and a fortnight later from his mastership, without any previous complaint or subsequent explanation, quotes Dr. Hayman's words lately to a parent of a boy, that "there was no slur resting upon Mr. Scott or Mr. Robertson, and that he had no charge whatever to bring against either of them." He goes on to say:—"I must be permitted to add, in justice to the colleagues whom I leave behind me, and whose duty has disabled them from self-defence in public, that they have striven since Dr. Hayman's appointment with the most anxious diligence to do their difficult duty to the school and to him, and that no Head Master could well have had at his service more constant, experienced, and willing assistance and advice. And may I express most respectfully my regret that none of them were called in by you to be present at the late inquiry, and my conviction that the information you have received on this head has been very incomplete. I need not say that this letter is written without their knowledge or suggestion."

#### THE MATCHMAKERS IN ARMS.

THE matchmakers of the East-End, and as many of the match-sellers of the metropolis as could spare the leisure, marched westwards, on Monday, with the idea of harmlessly invading Westminster and presenting a petition to the House of Commons against Mr. Lowe's match tax. The police, however, formed an opposing army, and completely routed the foe. Had the demonstration been allowed to take place as first intended, it would have been certainly imposing, and, if appearances at the beginning were a guarantee, orderly. During the morning sandwich-placarded men walked up and down the Strand and other main thoroughfares announcing a monster procession from Bow station, protesting against the obnoxious tax in a variety of ways, and asserting that the impost meant, if anything, the starvation of thousands, the driving of a lucrative trade from the east of London, filling the prisons and the unions, increase of taxation, paralysing of a large British industry, the desolation of thousands of homes, and intense misery. In the neighbourhood of Bow station between breakfast-time and noon there were many evidences that the numerous poor toilers of the highways and byways, whose means of livelihood are threatened by the Chancellor of the Exchequer's proposals, had forsworn work for the day. In twos and threes, half-dozen and dozens, men, women, and children swelled the gathering at the appointed meeting-place, the elders gravely conversing of the future, as men over whose path an angry cloud had risen, the youngsters hardly certain as to the precise meaning of the whole business, but positive that the time had arrived for presenting a firm front against some unknown and unfriendly power. Three bands of music were there, to lend liveliness and union to the procession; and placards in plenty, to be worn upon the person, hoisted in the hat, and displayed upon poles, were distributed. Putting aside the natural "larking" of the boys and girls, everything was done decently and in order. A start was made about noon. The inhabitants of the locality, although only indirectly interested in the proceedings, came out on the pavements, or clustered at the windows, and looked the sympathy they had not the opportunity of expressing. Several carts were filled with the match-making fraternity and sisterhood, the panels and tailboards adorned with protests in bold type against the match tax. These handbills had been supplied regardless of expense, and some of them expressed their ideas in unpretending verse. Said one of them, after the style of the old Cornish ballad:—

And will the match trade die?  
And will the match trade die?  
Then thirty thousand working girls  
Will know the reason why.

Another proclamation was in the form of an inquiry, "Why should we be ruined to provide compensation for the officers of the Army?" Songs were struck up, the purport of most of them being unspurring indignation at the alleged persecution, while in one instance we heard a chorus of female voices expressing the dire determination, "We'll hang Bob Lowe; yes, we'll hang Robert Lowe on a sour apple tree." Still there was no semblance of violence.

The procession numbered several thousands, the majority being girls between thirteen and twenty years old. About half a mile from Bow-station, at the Globe Canal Bridge, a strong force of police was stationed. A panic seized the poor matchmakers; the children clung to the elders, the elders looked inquiringly at one another, and tens of thousands of spectators seemed highly outraged at the appearance of the truncheoned guardians of the peace. There was not much time for doubt; the police barred the advance, the bands of music and the procession were broken up in the commotion, hoots resounded from side to side, the women shrieked, flagpoles were smashed, and the place was in a general uproar, during which a few stones were thrown. The matchmakers, however, were so far too compact to be easily daunted, and they were not broken. In Whitechapel there was more police opposition. By this time there were probably 10,000 demonstrators, and they more seriously resisted the police; but the bulk passed on, and found their way to the Thames Embankment in confirmed straggling order. Here the police were compact and ready, as if a Reign of Terror had set in. Across the road under the Charing-cross Railway Bridge there was a close cordon of picked men drawn, and as the stragglers grew in numbers a collision was inevitable. The collision came, and for some time serious mischief was imminent. Placard boards were smashed, the few remaining banner staves were converted into splinters, and there was a good deal of hustling, stone-throwing, and screaming. Blows were given on both sides. A policeman, struck over the head with a ginger-bottle, withdrew or was dragged disabled from the fray and conveyed to Westminster Hospital. Another officer was overpowered, and nearly hoisted over the parapet into the Thames. Many of the people whose passage was thus blocked escaped frightened and enraged into Parliament-street, where ranks of policemen again baffled them. Nevertheless, about 3000 contrived to enter Palace-yard, where the police appeared somewhat surprised. Entrance to Westminster Hall was somehow effected by the people, but Superintendent Denning quickly concentrated his men and cleared out the intruders, not without scuffling and promptness, but apparently with no more harshness than peremptory orders rendered essential. The telegraph wires were meanwhile set in motion, and reinforcements rapidly poured in—reinforcements of spectators as well as police. Here and there, no doubt, policemen, strong in their sense of officialism, and bullying in their strength, approached the verge of brutality. One man, for instance, we heard of who was chased by three or four constables and knocked down because he succeeded in breaking through the line of bluecoats. The representative of a contemporary remonstrated. "That's not English!" he exclaimed. "We'll run you in if you don't cut," rejoined the policeman, and run in the bold protester would have been but for a judicious retreat. Ordinary gentlemen, not excluding members of Parliament, barristers, and others fresh from the courts and hall, were sometimes rudely ordered on if they happened to be standing two or three together. The hunted matchmakers—women, children, and men—lingered at wherever they were allowed to rest; hissed the Sheriff's carriages as they rolled along the Embankment drive, and hooted the police persistently. Superintendent Mott, in charge of the police in Palace-yard, had, however, no further trouble. The men had marched and counter-marched, and taken up positions of strength; but the folk from the East-End, when their astonishment at having put London in a state of war had subsided, felt no longer inclined to run a muck against the authorities. Some of the Cabinet Ministers walked down to the House. Mr. Gladstone, who was followed across Palace-yard by a stout police sergeant, was slightly hissed; Mr. Disraeli as slightly cheered, not by the matchmakers, but by well-dressed loungers on the pavement outside. Mr. Bruce and Mr. Forster, arm-in-arm, were not recognised. Mr. Lowe was eagerly inquired for, but not found. Every closed cab was supposed to conceal him; but time wore on, and there was no sign of his right honourable appearance. A strong body of police faced the covered passage leading to the Underground Railway; and when half-past four had struck the hunt ceased, and it was generally said that the quarry had run to earth. The rumour was then disseminated, too, that the tax was to be withdrawn; and simultaneously there was a black threat from above of rain. By common consent the matchmakers, some of them having walked seven miles already, and being footsore in consequence, turned their faces homewards, and straggled, in irregular columns of companies, from Westminster to Blackfriars. The police were now drawn up at ease on the roadside, and each group treated them to derisive laughter as it passed to the east. The worthy constables, a little conscience-stricken, maybe, at the onslaught they had been obliged to make against women and children, waved good-humoured adieux, and smiled smiles of as much good-will as was consistent with the rules of the service.

Thus, as dusk approached, ended a demonstration which promised to have been peaceable, thoroughly effective in numbers, and

genuine in composition—a demonstration which, being at times harshly opposed, might by any accident have been converted into a disastrous collision, discreditable to all parties concerned. We have seen police displays of a similar kind on other occasions since the day when the reform leaguers were credited with the demolition of the Park railings, and were naturally surprised to find a more ostentatious parade of force than at any previous public gathering. Perhaps the humble matchmakers were more dangerous than they looked; at any rate, the fact remains that the police mustered with an unusually formidable front in Westminster Hall, Palace-yard, the Thames Embankment, and in Parliament-street. What detailed acts of violence took place we cannot say; in the confusion, like many another bystander, we were borne about like a leaf on a fierce tide, amidst cries of terror from the crowd, and peremptory commands from big policemen, who no doubt acted under the orders of their superiors. In one thing the matchmakers thoroughly succeeded: they kept Westminster in a ferment for two hours, and proved that during the short interval that has elapsed since Budget night they have keenly comprehended the position in which Mr. Lowe would place them.—*Daily News*.

#### EMANUEL HOSPITAL.

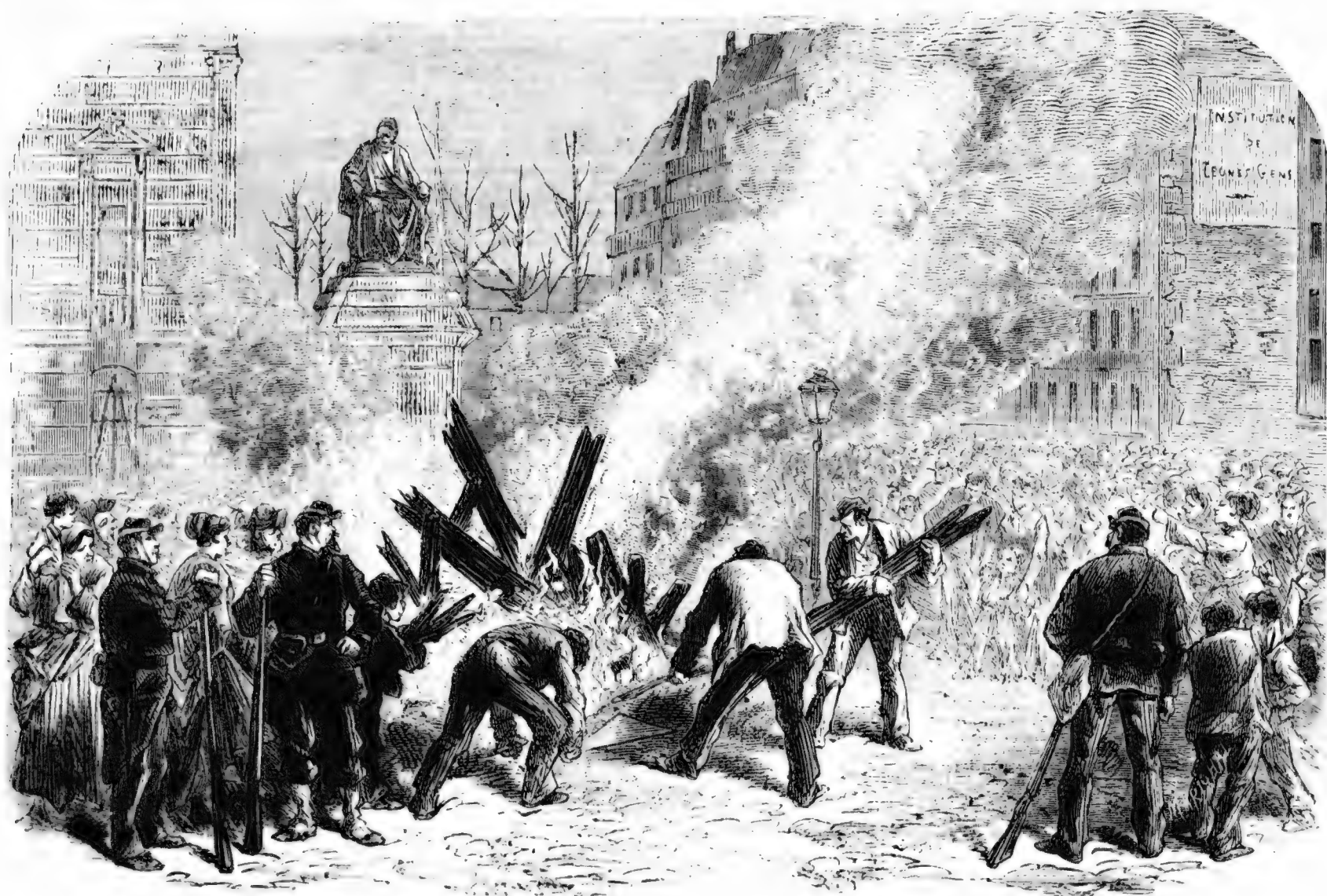
THE case of Emanuel Hospital must be considered with reference to the whole class of institutions to which it belongs. The Corporation of London placards the walls and gets up its meeting, Lord Salisbury talks of confiscation, Lord Buckhurst is indignant on the part of his ancestress, and easy people who believe what they are told, and are much moved when the rights of the poor are pleaded, particularly by distinguished people, may fancy that some monstrous official tyranny is to be perpetrated. The truth is that the wrong is being done now, and that the scheme of the Commissioners will not only extend the public benefits of the charity, but will really restore it to the poor. The foundress's will is so interpreted as to confine the charity to householders paying rates and taxes. The usual effects of patronage are seen in the number of City children introduced into the school. It was stated in the debate on Monday that, according to the evidence of one of the Assistant Commissioners, there was a certain class of persons who could always make pretty sure of getting their children in, such as messengers in the House of Commons and House of Lords, or persons in the employ of the Governors. One must know very little of these things not to be prepared for such information. Every institution of the kind is looked upon by those who have power over it simply as a means of rewarding their dependents. We do not say this is actually reprehensible, but we do say that it is not to make the best use of the institutions of the country, and that it is a public duty not to leave Emanuel Hospital, with its fine income, without reform.

We will come to particulars, so that our readers may judge what reason the governors and their friends have for crying "Sacrilege!" The present state of things is as follows:—There are four foundations in Westminster—Emanuel Hospital, with a net income of £2000; Greencoat Hospital, with £740, and £840 in immediate prospect; Palmer's School, with £1000; and Hill's School, with £200; total, £3940 present income. About £600 or £700 of this has been accumulating, so that the total amount available is about £3300 a year. The present results of this large sum of money are these:—Boys maintained, clothed, and educated in Emanuel Hospital, 64; in Greencoat Hospital, 28; total, 92. Boys supplied with outer clothing and educated in Palmer's School, 20; in Hill's School, 35; grand total, 147. Thus, Emanuel Hospital, about which the Mansion House and the House of Lords are in commotion, does actually support only sixty-four boys. The schools are all elementary, or little better. The scheme of the Commissioners is to unite these endowments and extend the advantages of them. It may be remarked, as an instance of the waste of force and funds, that there are at present in a circle with a radius of 300 yards from a point in Westminster five different establishments working as seven different schools—the four we have mentioned, and the Greycoat Hospital, which has two schools, one of sixty-six boys, another of thirty-four girls. Under the proposed scheme it is sufficient to say that there will be 150 boys educated freely, 150 half freely, and 600 with a part remission of payments. The amount available for free tuition and exhibitions is to be divided equally; one third is to be given between boys of the elementary schools of St. Margaret's and St. John's, one third to orphans, and one third is to be open to general competition. Here we certainly have the interests of the poor sufficiently regarded. In fact, the scheme promises the utilisation of a fine endowment, which will shortly exceed £4000 a year, and which now affords the very least possible benefit to the community.—*Times*.

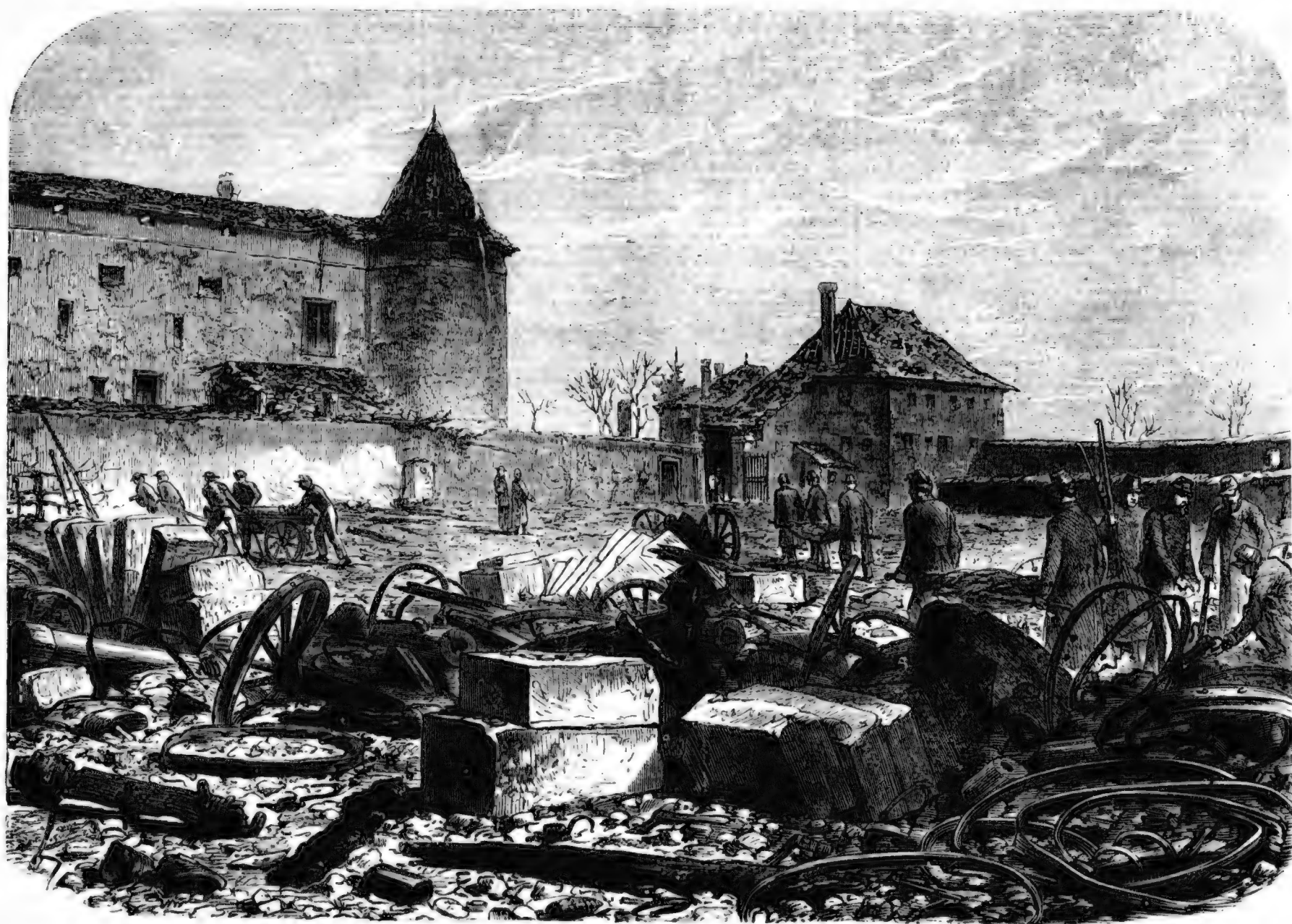
PROPOSED NEW MARKET.—Mr. Henry Meyers, the president of the Market Gardeners', Nurseriesmen's, and Farmers' Association, together with several of the other members, attended, by appointment, at the Guildhall, the other day, for the purpose of meeting the Market Improvement Committee of the City of London, and fully explaining the requirements of the market gardeners with reference to the great need for improved market accommodation for the disposal of fruit, flowers, and vegetables within the metropolis. Mr. Meyers stated that the growers had for many years been making applications to the agents of the Duke of Bedford to construct a roof over the whole of Covent-garden Market, and make other really necessary improvements; but no steps had yet been taken to meet the urgent wants of the public and the trade. Under these circumstances, the growers were glad to hear that the Corporation of London contemplated certain improvements and alterations in the City markets. Some of the members had expressed an opinion that the site in Smithfield near the new Meat Market would be most advantageous to both buyers and sellers; yet, after taking into consideration the central position and great width of Farringdon-street, the Market Improvement Committee appeared to consider that, by means of a judicious outlay in altering the present inconvenient levels and approaches, giving ample means of ingress and egress, and constructing a light roof over the whole area of Farringdon Market, the latter would be a source of more profit to the Corporation, and within a few years would rise from its present unsatisfactory state to the position of a really first-class, well attended market. The deputation was courteously received by the Market Improvement Committee, who went into the discussion in a business-like manner; and it was ultimately agreed that a sub-committee from the Market Improvement Committee should meet a sub-committee from the Market Gardeners' Association, to discuss and arrange the necessary details required either for the improvement of Farringdon-market or the erection of a new market opposite the new Meat Market.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.—OPENING CEREMONIAL.—The proceedings at the state opening, on May 1, will probably be as follows:—Her Majesty the Queen has deputed his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the Princess Christian to act on her behalf. A number of other Royal and distinguished persons will also be present, including his Royal Highness the Count of Flanders, President of the Belgian Commission, and the Countess. At about eleven o'clock, those who have been invited to take part in the ceremony—viz., the municipal authorities, the chairmen of chambers of commerce, the masters of city companies, the Council of the Society of Arts, the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society, the official staff, reporters for the Exhibition, and members of committees—all in uniform or official dress, will assemble at the chief horticultural entrance, and be marshalled in order of procession. At about half-past eleven, the Prince of Wales, Princess Christian, and Royal personages, and her Majesty's Commissioners, and foreign Ministers and Commissioners will enter the east entrance of the Royal Horticultural Society in Exhibition-road, and proceed to the Conservatory of the Royal Horticultural Society. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and Princess Christian having received the authorities named above, a procession will be formed, which will proceed to the east picture galleries, and return through the pottery gallery, cross the gardens, if fine, and through the machinery gallery, up the south-west stairs, along the terrace, if fine, or if wet, through picture-galleries, through the gardens to the conservatory, when the Old Hundredth Psalm will be sung by all present, accompanied by drums and trumpets. Military bands will then proclaim the opening of the Exhibition. The procession will enter the Royal Albert Hall, when the following music, under the direction of Sir Michael Costa, will be performed:—An overture by Weber; chorale, representing Italian music, composed and conducted by Signor Pinotti (the words of this chorale have been written by Lord Houghton, who has presented them to the Commissioners); a piece representing French music, composed and conducted by M. Gounod; an overture representing German music, composed by Dr. F. Hiller; a cantata representing British music, composed and conducted by Mr. A. Sullivan, entitled "On Sea and Shore," words by Mr. Tom Taylor; an overture by Rossini; and "God Save the Queen," in which the audience will join.





THE REVOLUTION IN PARIS: BURNING THE GUILLOTINE.



SCENE AT THE ARSENAL, MORGES, SWITZERLAND, AFTER THE LATE EXPLOSION.



## THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE.

WE this week continue our Illustrations of events connected with the unhappy contest now raging around Paris. The first of these represents a party of National Guards engaged in constructing trenches outside the city with the view of resisting the attacks of the troops from Versailles. The patriots so occupied, however, seem as much bent on enjoyment as work; which is all quite right, and we dare say, seeing that even patriots "must live," and can hardly be expected to be exalted above consideration of "creature comforts;" only, perhaps, it would have been well had the bottle played a less prominent part in the performance in hand. The lady, we suppose, has just arrived with supplies; and the hard-worked party are relaxing a bit over a pipe, a drop, and a chat. One pours out the liquor—nothing stronger, let us hope, than vin ordinaire—while others imbibe, and "mon officier" looks on, pipe in hand. Even the cook is not forgotten; indeed he seems the best off among the lot, for he has a bottle all to himself. We hope it was not empty before it reached him, however, and that the more distant toilers with pickaxe and spade were allowed to come in for their share.

Our next Illustration depicts the vestibule and grand staircase of the Hôtel de Ville under the revolutionary régime. And what a mighty change has taken place in the aspects of that same grand staircase, as compared with the appearance it wore when we had occasion to portray it aforesaid on occasion of the fine galas held here during the festive days of the Empire! Then it was decorated with flowers and crowded with elegantly-dressed ladies and grandly-bedizened State functionaries. Now rough, uncouth looking men stand in groups, lounge upon the steps, and converse with each other over the balusters; porters come down

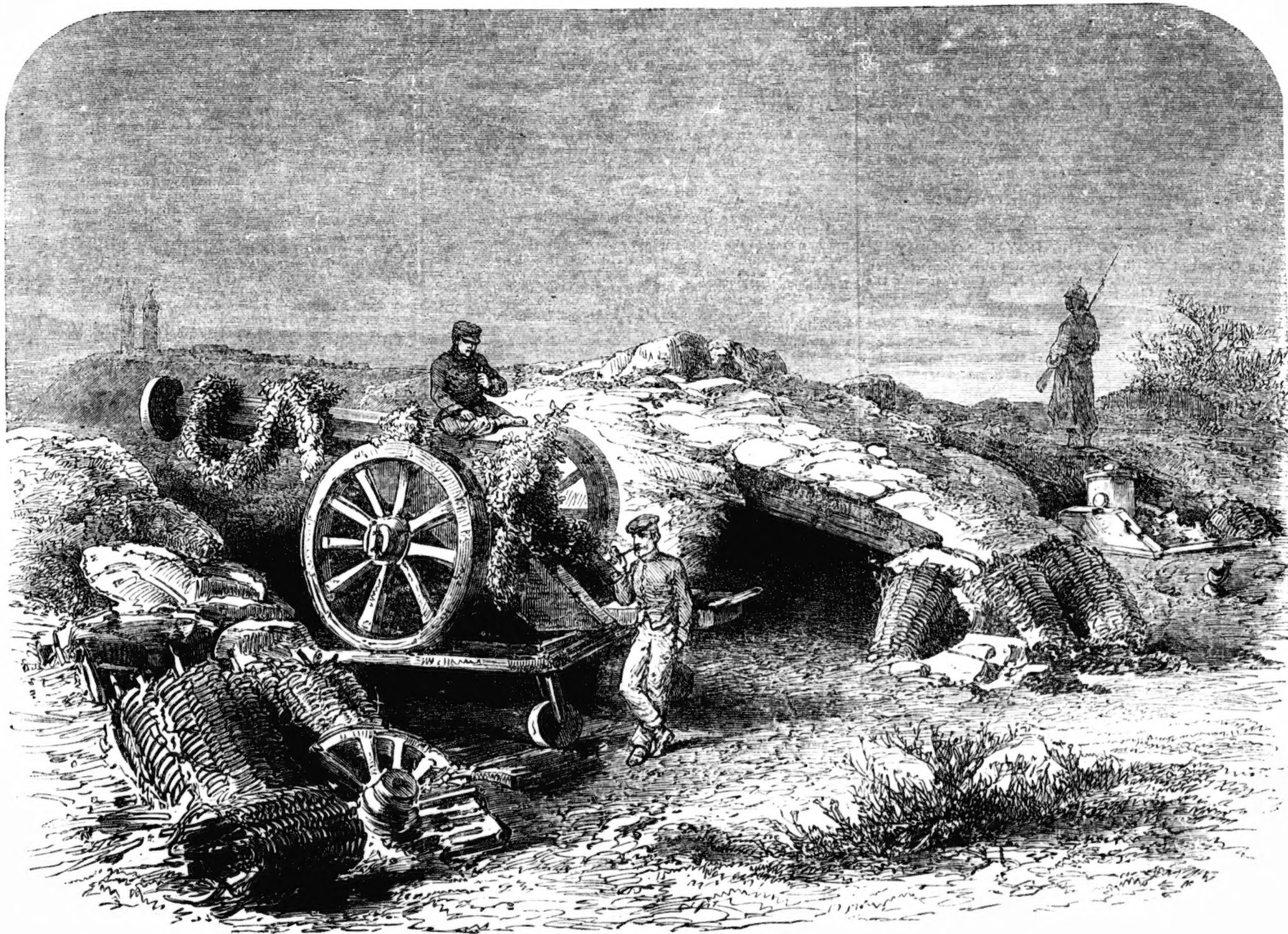
laden with bales of goods—the cushions from the seats, we suppose, which are deemed too luxurious for Republican simplicity, and must, therefore, be removed; while stacks of rifles and bayonets bristle in all directions, and armed men jostle each other as they make their way to and from the bureaux up stairs. Truly, the Hôtel de Ville at Paris has seen some strange guests in its time, but none stranger than those who have congregated there since March 18, 1871.

Another singular scene is that depicted in our Engraving on page 268. One revolution, in the name of humanity, produced the guillotine; another, under the same auspices, has destroyed it. But, just as Robespierre and his colleagues first abolished capital punishment, and then made liberal use of the guillotine in order to rid the world of the "foes of freedom and humanity," so have the Communists burnt the same instrument of life-taking so that no man shall be too offensively (or too legally) reminded of his latter end; and yet have retained the right to condemn enemies and traitors to be shot: death may no longer be inflicted by the quick-descending knife, but the equally quick acting bullet may still do its work. The author of a recent French book on the siege of Paris declares that though mankind in general are a bundle of contradictions, Parisians are the very embodiment of contrariety; and he is right. We do not know if anyone has actually been executed since the destruction of the guillotine, but it is certain that some persons have recently been condemned to death by the Communal tribunals, military and civil; and M. Rochefort, referring in the *Mot d'Ordre* to the condemnation to death of a commandant of the National Guard, says that directly such a butchery takes place he will withdraw from journalism. When the Emperor declared war against Prussia, M. Rochefort sup-

pressed the *Marseillaise*, as it had been established to discuss political and social questions, not to calculate the number of men who had fallen upon the battle-field, for the greater glory of "two despots equally despicable." The very first execution in virtue of a sentence of the Commune will be the signal, therefore, for the disappearance of the *Mot d'Ordre*.

## EXPLOSION AT MORGES.

AFTER the French Army of the East had been forced across the frontier into Switzerland and the troops disarmed, large quantities of chassepots, cannons, and munitions of war of all kinds were deposited in the Federal arsenal at Morges. Here these arms and stores remained for some time, under the charge of the Swiss soldiers, some of whom, unfortunately, were curious as to the construction and working of the French rifle. While engaged in examining the weapon on March 9, one of the pieces accidentally exploded in the vicinity of a heap of cartridges. These ignited, and the mischief spread to the bombs, grenades, shells, powder-waggon, &c., of the French, and finally to the store of ammunition in the arsenal. A terrible scene was the result. Strong walls were shattered to atoms, bombs and grenades flew all over the place, killing people and wrecking houses, the calamity culminating in the buildings and materials scattered about taking fire and burning furiously. The fire brigade was summoned, but had scarcely reached the spot when the commandant, Thury, was struck by the splinter of a shell and killed. Several soldiers were buried in the ruins, cannons, portions of gun-carriages, ammunition-waggon, and huge blocks of stone being heaped upon them. A number of lives were thus lost, besides injuries sustained by



IN THE BATTERY AT PEROUSE, NEAR BELFORT, AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF PEACE.

other persons, soldiers and civilians, and the arsenal reduced to a state of almost total ruin. The results of this catastrophe, originating in a manner seemingly so simple, are shown in our Engraving.

## PEACE AT BELFORT.

BELFORT, that stronghold in ancient Alsace which was the last to succumb to the German arms, is not, as is elsewhere stated, to pass away from France with the rest of the province. But it is included in the occupied districts; and is consequently still, and is likely to remain for some time, in the hands of the Germans. Glad enough, however, were the besiegers of Belfort, as well as the besieged there, to see an end of their labours when peace was finally concluded; and our Engraving shows how the event was celebrated in the battery of Perouse, near Belfort, by the German artillerymen engaged in the siege.

## THE COMMUNE OF PARIS.

Paris, April 24.

It is not so easy as might be thought to avoid being a member of the Commune. Once having had the misfortune of being elected, a man cannot draw back at will. The adventures of M. Félix Pyat and some of his colleagues show that, if the Commune has not yet decreed compulsory education, it has invented compulsory representation. It is not even necessary to have been elected to be made perforce a member of the Commune; it is sufficient to have received a few votes. At the last complementary elections, on the 16th, only a very small number of electors presented themselves at the ballot. The law of 1818, which the Central Committee had put in force for the first elections, requires that the candidate to be elected should receive the votes of at least an eighth of the number of electors registered. This law was broken in the case of six members of the Commune, who obtained a number of votes less than the eighth of the registered electors.

Notwithstanding this, the Commune, scorning majorities, did not think it necessary to pass a new law. It would have been easy to make one law more, the trouble would have been small; the Commune contented itself with the old law for the complementary elections. What had its members been dreaming of? They had imagined that Paris, charmed with its holiday time, would have hastened to the ballot-box to increase the number of its tyrants. The awakening was painful: if the Commune observed the law it had chosen, out of thirty-one members to be elected barely five would be elected. The failure was flagrant. Would it have to be confessed? Would it be necessary to invite another failure by ordering new elections? After the fashion of despots, the Commune cut the knot by the sword: it declared that all the candidates should be considered elected, if only they had obtained a majority of the number of voters. By this means only nine candidates were thrown out. Some were elected by the twelfth, some by the twentieth part of the number of electors; they might have been by less. It was shown that by this system, if all the electors were indifferent or ill-disposed, a candidate might elect himself. But what could common-sense do against the over-ruling and final judgment of the Commune? Twenty-six members against thirteen were found to confirm the opinion that no one has more contempt for the will of the people than those who proclaim themselves its zealous servants.

It was not enough, however, that a third of the Assembly protested against this pretension of substituting itself for the electors; a schism was destined to ensue from this of which the effects already begin to be seen. M. Rogeard and M. Briosne, first elected by a *majorité de faveur*, not considering themselves sufficiently elected, refuse to receive from the Commune a commission not given to them by the electors. They have some feelings of shame at sitting by favour, and call for a new ballot. Next comes M. Félix Pyat. Like some other people, he now at last feels the burden of responsibility, and would gladly relieve himself of it. He sends, therefore, his resignation to the Communal Council,

a "conditional" resignation, however, which his electors of the tenth arrondissement may accept or refuse. To their verdict he submits his case of conscience and prudence. But the Council of the Commune will not hear of all this; this great elector, which elects people at will, intends to oblige, by force if necessary, those whom it has incorporated with it to remain faithful. It requires accomplices to aid it to bear the weight of its iniquities. "Really," exclaims one of the members of the Commune (M. Régère), "these resignations, which are perpetually being offered to us, look like moral weakness, and almost like desertion." To this another member (M. Amoureux), a journeyman hatter by trade, adds, "If we had to take notice of every incident of this kind, and to give it effect, the time would come when there would no longer be anyone left to deliberate in the Assembly." A melancholy confession, which reveals, in fact, much falling off and a "moral weakness" worthy of notice in the moment of danger. The Council of the Commune has accordingly, in its sitting of the 21st, passed to the order of the day on the subject of the resignation of Citizen Pyat, who is obliged to remain a member of the Commune, *malgré lui*.

The affair did not end here, but had serious consequences in the sitting of the next day, and new grievances were added to it. Accused by his brethren of the press of having assisted in the suppression of newspapers, M. Félix Pyat writes that he had nothing to do with it, and had not even been present at the sitting when this measure was taken; but his colleagues in the Executive Commission protest and affirm, on the contrary, that Citizen Pyat has always been, with Citizen Rigault, on the side of severity, and that if the proposition for the suppression of the newspapers was drawn up by the young Rigault, a medical student, and superintendent of police, the idea was suggested by Félix Pyat. That there was much clamour in the Assembly will be understood; indignation is roused that Pyat, the old Pyat, the patriarch of the demagogues, should dare thus to abjure his acts and words; and one of the members proposed simply to put him in prison. Prison is the final argument of the Commune; if you



do not agree with it—to prison. It is an irresistible argument, and certainly that which can most often be successfully invoked for the support of its doctrines. The Commune has not yet come to shooting down wholesale, and I think it has neither the audacity nor the power to do so; but it is lavish of bolts. And we must do it this justice—that it shows a most remarkable impartiality. It imprisons its own members with as much facility as its adversaries; it lets them out more easily, that is the only difference. Assi and Bergeret have been set at liberty; but it still holds under lock and key its hostages—the Archbishop of Paris, 200 priests and members of religious orders, and as many inoffensive citizens. They are kept for the day of the great making-up of accounts. But all the members of the Commune do not approve this mildness. "Let us talk less and act more," said Citizen Blanchet; "fewer condemnations and more executions." What has become of the decree on the grand jury and the non-applied law on the rebellious recruits? And the Column of the Place Vendôme, which is not yet down? This last trait was necessary to give to the Council of the Commune its true character. It is true the Column of the Place Vendôme is still standing—it is even surrounded with high barricades, which protect the base from cannon-balls; but I saw yesterday in the *Official* that its bronzes were for sale. I doubt whether any purchasers will present themselves. The Commune has a peculiar way of stimulating private enterprise, which produces an effect opposite to that expected. It appeals to purchasers; they do not come. It invites merchants to send flour; the flour does not appear. It asks for volunteers; the volunteers do not present themselves. Hence the decree against the refractory recruits; and really Citizen Blanchet is ill-informed when he pretends that it is not applied. Every day sees men who have been arrested in the night conducted to the forts and forced to become volunteers by putting them in front of the first rank, so as to place them between two fires. An ambulance surgeon told me that one fourth at least of the wounded were hit in the back. "They were running away?" said I. "No; the second rank fires on the first." Citizen Blanchet was again ill-informed when he complained that the grand jury was not yet ready. Citizen Protot, Minister of Justice, had the decree in his pocket. This decree throws a vivid light on the whole system, which M. Delescluze, in this same sitting of the 22nd, has perfectly characterised in these words:—"We are for revolutionary measures; but we wish to observe forms, to respect the law and public opinion." To assume an appearance of legality, to take the mask of justice, and, while trampling on public opinion, to profess to be its slave, that is the whole system. The Empire has been reproached, and not always without reason, with its hypocrisy when speaking of liberty; but how is it surpassed by the Commune in this respect when speaking not only of liberty, but of legality, of justice, of social interests, of equity?—*Parisian Correspondent of the "Times."*

#### THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

THE Council of the Royal Academy has this year made an alteration in arrangements, for which we, in common with the rest of our brethren of the press, owe them thanks. The ordinary "private view" day was wont to be the most inconvenient of any for critically examining the pictures exhibited, and the representatives of the press were unable to satisfactorily perform their duties in the midst of the noise and bustle characteristic of the rooms on the most crowded day of the whole season. This inconvenience has this year been obviated by the council setting apart a day (Wednesday last) for the exclusive admission of newspaper critics. But, as the council do not wish formal criticisms to appear till after the exhibition is really open, we confine ourselves at present to merely naming some of the more important pictures.

In the large room the posts of honour are occupied at the top of the room by Mr. Millais's Aaron and Hur holding up the hands of Moses at the battle with Amalek, and at the sides by Mr. Frith's "Salon d'Or, Hombourg"—the gambling-hall, and Mr. Leighton's "Hercules Wrestling with Death for the Body of Alceste," which fills the place of Maelise's fine picture last year. Above these, on each side, are two large equestrian portraits by the President, Sir F. Grant—one, that of J. G. Leigh, Esq., surrounded by a pack of foxhounds, with huntsmen and whips; the other of General Sir James Yorke Scarlett. M. Gérôme's "Cléopâtre apportée à César dans un tapis," and M. Tadmé's "Discovery of the Emperor Claudius hidden behind the Curtain," and M. Perrault's "Cache-cache" (Bo-peep), are the chief pictures by foreign painters in the large room; and another important work of M. Gérôme hangs in the lecture-room, "A Vendre"—two African girls in the slave market, with a monkey and a parrot. Mr. Mark's "Bookworm," Mr. Elmore's "Leonore," taken from the poem of Bürger, as translated by Walter Scott; Mr. Hook's "Norwegian Trappers;" Mr. Faed's "A wee bit fractious"—a mother and child; Mr. Calderon's "On Her Way to the Throne"—a Royal lady with her train of attendants and servants; Mr. Horsley's "Queen of Scots in Captivity" and Mr. Ward's "Anne Boleyn Fainting on the Tower Stairs," with two admirable portraits by Mr. Watts of Mr. Millais and Mr. Leighton, are the most noticeable pictures in the principal gallery. In the first room hang Mr. Millais's very remarkable landscape "Chill October"—a scene on the Tay, opposite to which is a large corn-field piece by Mr. Vicat Cole. Mrs. Ward's capital picture of the boy Frederick the Great having his fortune told, and Mary Queen of Scots led to execution, by M. L. J. Pott, with Mr. Long's "Question of Propriety"—a dancing girl performing before the inquisitors at Seville. In the second room the chief picture is Mr. G. D. Leslie's large work of "Nausicaa and her Maids." Mr. Wynfield's striking picture of the death of Buckingham. In the third room we noticed particularly Mr. Armitage's large portrait group of "Faraday receiving a Deputation," Mr. Ward's "Doctor Oliver Goldsmith," Mr. Barwell's "Norwich on a Market-Day," Mr. Millais's "Somnambulist," a young lady holding a chamber candlestick in her hand as she walks in her sleep; and Mr. Poole's "Imogene." In the fifth room are to be noticed Mr. Graham's "Rainy Day," Mr. Rossiter's "Memories of the Past," and especially Mr. K. Halsewell's large work, "Contadini in St. Peter's, Rome," Mr. Nicoll's "The Fishers' Knot." In gallery six are Mr. Graham's fine landscape of a pine forest, "The Bridle Road," Mr. Heilbuth's "Spring," Mr. J. Gilbert's "Convocation of Clergy," and the "Easter Vigil," by E. Long. Gallery seven contains as prominent pictures Mr. W. B. Richmond's "Ancient Roman Bowl Players," Mr. J. Brett's minutely painted "Etna, from the heights of Taormina;" "The Soldier's Last March," by H. Williams; "A Capri Corn-Field," by W. R. Morris; Mr. Hook's "Norwegian Haymakers;" and Mr. Leighton's Greek Girls on the Seashore." In the Lecture-Room are Mr. Orchardson's large "Interior of St. Mark's, Venice," with figures; Mr. Elmore's "Judith;" Mr. Rivière's most humorous picture of "Circe and the Pigs—the friends of Ulysses;" M. Gérôme's "Slave-Girls," and M. Hébert's "Morning and Evening of Life;" Mr. F. Walker's "At the Bar," a girl prisoner; Mr. Tourrier's "The Guide," soldiers urging on a wretched guide with their spears; and Mr. Morris's "Calvary," a shepherd gazing up at the cross.

The water-colour drawings are unusually numerous and good, and the architectural drawings partially fill one room. There are several groups in sculpture—one, by Mr. Fuller, particularly noticeable, of a "Peri and Child Floating on a Swan"—and a great many busts, with one or two large bas-reliefs.

**SHOCKING ACCIDENT.**—A shocking accident occurred to Lieutenant Henry Hole, of Quorndon, Loughborough, on Monday afternoon. For the first time this year he had come out for preliminary drill on the Leicester Race-course with the Leicester troop of Yeomanry Cavalry. His horse, a fine animal, bolted, and endeavoured to jump a double fence of spiked iron rails. Lieutenant Hole fell on his head, which was fearfully lacerated, and he was at once removed, insensible, to the infirmary, where he now lies in a most hopeless state from internal injuries and concussion of the brain. The horse, which was much injured, was shot at once.

#### MUSIC.

SINCE our last notice several familiar operas have been produced at both houses, and many well-known characters have been sustained in the usual manner. At Drury Lane, for example, Mlle. Ilma di Murska has played Linda, Mlle. Titiens Norma, and Mlle. Leon-Duval the Marguerite of "Faust." At Covent Garden, Madame Patti has appeared in "Il Barbiere" (Rosina), and in "Don Giovanni" (Zerlina); while Madame Lucca has presented the Leonora of Meyerbeer's "Huguenots." Our readers will not require a detailed notice of performances so familiar, and therefore we pass to those events which may claim remark on the score of novelty. The revival of "Linda" at Drury Lane, on Thursday week, brought forward Mr. Bentham as Carlo. This gentleman, once a "distinguished amateur," is a distinguished amateur still, in the sense that he has not yet acquired the power and bearing of a professional. He has an agreeable voice of fair compass, and is otherwise physically qualified for the stage. Whether natural advantages have been supplemented by those of adequate training did not appear on the night of Mr. Bentham's début; but then it must be owned that the new tenor was painfully nervous. Signor Moriani, another "first appearance," sang the music of Antonio with a good baritone voice, and in capital style. His acting was somewhat overdone, but, as the gentleman is young, he will probably abate his ardour in time. Mr. Mapleson should be congratulated upon so desirable an acquisition. Signor Agnese, a bass known in this country, made his *entrée* as Il Prefetto, and added much to the enjoyment of a satisfactory performance. At the presentation of "Faust," on Tuesday, Signor Nicolini appeared, in the title rôle, to a public most of whom, perhaps, remembered him at Covent Garden a few years ago. His success was unquestionable, thanks to a handsome presence and an easy bearing upon the stage, and singing which, though essentially French (Signor Nicolini is no Italian), was agreeable and refined. An attempt was made to encore "Salve dimora," and the applause bestowed upon the representative of Goethe's hero must have justified great hopes of public favour as regards his subsequent efforts. Signor Sparapani, another fresh arrival, did little in the part of Valentine, but before estimating his merits it is only fair to wait for larger experience. "Linda" was repeated on Thursday; to-night the opera is "Il Trovatore."

At Covent Garden, on Saturday last, Signor Mario reappeared as Count Almaviva, and was received with enthusiasm by a crowded house. Apart from want of voice, his performance was as admirable as ever, and gave not less satisfaction than in times past. With Signor Mario as their subject, these words have a particular significance, because not a few would willingly pay to see the Count Almaviva of Saturday last, though he did not utter a word or sing a note. Another novelty was the appearance of Madame Mian-Carvalho as Donna Elvira in Monday's performance of "Don Giovanni." The result of this effort did not amount to much, owing to the artist's want of physical means. "Mitradi" gave rise to apprehensions of failure, which, though avoided, was only avoided with difficulty. Madame Carvalho did better in "Les Huguenots," on Tuesday, her Marguerite being thoroughly successful both as regards acting and singing. Thursday's opera was "La Sonnambula," and "La Favorita" is to be repeated to-night.

The Philharmonic Society gave a concert in St. James's Hall on Monday, whereat Mlle. Brandes played Mendelssohn's G minor concerto with not the best result. The orchestra was indifferent, for reasons into which it behoves the conductor to look. Haydn's symphony (No. 7) and an overture by Wagner were conspicuous features in the programme. The New Philharmonic Society began its season, on Wednesday night, in St. James's Hall; and on Friday a performance of Mr. Leslie's "Immanuel" was given in the same place.

#### NEW MUSIC.

*Soft, Soft Wind.* Song. Words by Canon Kingsley; Music by CLEVELAND WIGAN. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

In this song the composer has shown himself possessed of the gift of tune, and also proved that he is disposed to exercise it apart from cut-and-dried forms. The four-and-a-half bar phrases, which occur twice in each verse, fall upon the ear in a very fresh and agreeable manner; while the melody, as a whole, is graceful and expressive. The accompaniment, without pretending to novelty, is fashioned after one of the least hackneyed of models, and suggests a hand sufficiently well acquainted with its work. The song is adapted to voices of moderate compass.

*The Linden Waltz.* Composed by HAMILTON AIDE. Transcribed for the Piano by STANISLAUS. Boosey and Co.

Transcription is not always defensible, but there can be no objection to adapting as a pianoforte piece that which already is a waltz tune. Hence we may praise Mr. Stanislaus's manipulation of the song Madame Sherrington has made familiar to concert-goers. The result is a pleasant trifle, worthy to be taken as an interlude by way of relief from graver things.

*From Fleeting Pleasures: The Hymn of Brother Clement.* Transcribed for the Piano by F. STANISLAUS. Boosey and Co.

Here is a case in which pianoforte transcription seems to us wrongly applied. We can imagine no circumstances demanding the decoration of a hymn tune with the stock ornaments of a drawing-room piece; while the fact that so many popular melodies are available to transcribers makes the choice of themes like that of "From Fleeting Pleasures" quite unnecessary. As an example of its kind, the work before us does not go beyond average merit.

*March of the Choristers.* By ALFRED B. ALLEN. Novello, Ewer, and Co.

This march has no special features which connect it with choristers or any other separate category of orderly pedestrians. It is a plain, straightforward composition, dignified in tone, if not religious in style. Mr. Allen evidently knows the march in "Athalia," judging from the way in which he sets out; but there are subsequent passages not referable to anything Mendelssohn has or could have written. On the whole, it is a creditable attempt at a form of art in which so many great musicians have employed their pens that only genius could devise anything new or strange.

*Wake! Maid of Lorne!* Poetry by Sir Walter Scott; Music by JAMES F. SIMPSON. W. H. ROSS.

Any setting of verses by Sir Walter Scott has a recommendation, which, in this case, is backed up by well-written and agreeable music. There is no attempt to give the song a national or local colour; and the composer has allowed himself free scope, with an effect not to be denied. Some portions of the music might be quoted as proofs that Mr. Simpson knows his business, the accompaniment, especially, calling for favourable notice. As the theme is one of abiding interest, and but remotely applies to a recent event, there is no reason why the song should not keep a hold upon public favour.

**AN UNLUCKY SHIP.**—A Hull and Rotterdam steamer, the *Kestrel*, was sunk at sea, on Sunday night, near the Newarp light-ship, by coming into collision with the screw-collier *Frankland*, of Newcastle. The *Kestrel* had on board 150 emigrants from Rotterdam, who were bound for America by way of Hull and Liverpool, and it is hoped that all got on board the *Frankland*, but the night was so dark that the crew of the *Kestrel* think it quite possible that one or two may have been drowned. The steamer *Engenie*, of Grimsby, from Antwerp, came up shortly after the collision, and took the passengers and crew of the *Kestrel* from the *Frankland*, and they were all safely landed at Grimsby. The *Kestrel* was run into and narrowly escaped foundering a little more than a year ago; subsequently she ran down, at Helvoetsluis, the Liverpool steamer *Widgeon*; and she herself was built to replace the *Sengulion* at the Rotterdam station, that vessel having been run down off the Newarp with loss of life.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN WESTMEATH.

THE Westmeath Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons did not omit to obtain from the gentlemen examined some evidence on the condition of the agricultural labourer, Captain G. Talbot, who has been a resident magistrate in Westmeath for about eight years, stated that there is a great deal of poverty in many parts of the county, but that the persons who are guilty of agrarian crime are not driven to it by poverty. The landlords, he says, are excellent landlords. The wages of agricultural labourers about Westmeath throughout the year are from 10d. to 1s. a day without diet—that is, for permanent labourers. For exceptional men, taken on for a job, the wages are about 5s. a week. He allows that an improvement of the condition of the labourers would tend to raise them above sympathy with crime; but he does not wish to be understood to say that remedial measures alone will ever cure Ribbonism. Captain W. Fitzjames Barry, a magistrate recently appointed to Westmeath, puts the wages at about 10d. a day, or 10d. to 1s. He thinks 10d. a day a very low rate, and says the market prices of the necessities of life have increased, so that it is very nearly as little as 6d. a day would have been twenty years ago. Mr. Rochfort Boyd, a magistrate of the county of Westmeath, who was also examined, and describes himself as one of the largest employers in the county, says that he recollects when men were to be had for 1s. a day in the summer and 10d. in the winter; but the standing wages now for able-bodied labourers are 9s. a week, or from 9s. to 10s. a week; he pays 9s., and gives a house and garden besides. He knows no part of the county in which a labourer constantly employed receives as little as 5s. a week, except where he gets other things; he says you could not get able-bodied men under 8s. at any time, much less in harvest and spring. He is not speaking of the town of Mullingar, but of the country parts generally; cheaper labour can be obtained in the town, as there is a large pauper population floating about. Being asked whether his account of wages relates to the amount given by gentlemen of large means or by farmers, he replied that farmers sometimes find it more difficult to get labour than gentlemen do, and have to pay more, but do not employ the men constantly. The cost of clothing has not risen, he says; the cost of food has risen; but the man with 9s. a week will not do anything like the work that a man did for 6s. a week fifteen years ago. Mr. Boyd denies that it can be said that the labourers are in a very wretched condition as regards their habitations and mode of living. He says that the farmers get their work done by what are known as farmers' boys, who live in the house; when they do employ men they cannot get them for less than 10s. He reminds the Committee that the resident magistrates come from towns where a floating population are, perhaps, glad to get 7d. a day. Another witness, Mr. W. Mooney, Clerk of the Court for the county of Westmeath, denies that the condition of the agricultural labourers of that county can be termed very wretched, but he puts the wages lower than Mr. Boyd does, and states that a permanent labourer gets from 6s. to 7s. a week, with a house which he could not get under 15s. or 20s. a year, and which is difficult to get at all; and he says the farmers could not afford to pay much higher wages than they do. The occasional labourer, from February to November, inclusive, he says, however, has 9s. a week. The houses of the labourers are "very bad." This gentleman admits that an improvement of the men's condition would raise their self-respect and make them better members of society, but he does not believe that the actual state of the labouring population has much to do with the acts of the Ribbon Society. The acts of the society have not been at all directed to procuring increased accommodation or better wages for the labouring class. Still, he allows that they would not be so open to inducements now successful with them. Some few proprietors, he says, have built very nice houses for their labourers, and that has improved them very much; a firm and just resident proprietor always has a very much better neighbourhood than one who is non-resident. One other witness—Mr. Julian, Crown Solicitor for Westmeath and King's County—was questioned about agricultural wages in Westmeath, and he states that, generally speaking, they average from 6s. to 8s. a week, and then they usually have some allowances beyond that. He refers both to labourers employed by farmers and by gentlemen for their demesnes; but he says he is not so well acquainted with Westmeath as with King's County. In the poor-law inspectors' special reports last year the wages of agricultural labourers in the Mullingar Union were stated at 6s. a week, being a rise of 50 per cent in the last twenty years; and the return described the labourer, naturally enough, as "not contented."

**THE BUDGET DIVISION.**—In the division upon Mr. White's amendment, on Monday night, thirty-three Liberals voted with the Opposition. Amongst these were Mr. Arkroyd, Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. C. Buxton, Mr. Candlish, Mr. David Chadwick, Mr. Dalglish, Sir C. Dilke, Mr. Dixon, Mr. F. Brett, Mr. C. Gilpin, Mr. Anson Herbert, Sir W. Lawson, Mr. Leatham, Mr. M. Laren, Mr. Miall, Mr. Muntz, Mr. Henry Richard, and Mr. P. A. Taylor. The tellers for the minority were Mr. White and Mr. Rylands. The only Conservatives who voted with the Government were Colonel Lloyd-Lindsay and Mr. Percy Wyndham. Lord Elcho voted in the minority. The names of Sir Robert Peel and Mr. Bernal Osborne do not appear in the division.

**CENSUS OF UTAH.**—It is stated that the new census shows a total population of 86,605 in the territory of Utah, and many persons will be surprised to learn that the males are 1277 more in number than the females. It must be remembered, however, that in newly-settled territories the males, in ordinary cases, much more largely outnumber the females. The returns for Salt Lake City show how greatly the "peculiar institution" is sustained by foreigners. The native (American born) population is 10,236, and the females are 78 fewer than the males; but in the foreign-born population—viz., 70,100—the females are 686 more in number than the males. In the native population of Salt Lake City there are 50 females to 51 males; in the foreign population there are 38 females to 31 males. If we exclude children, who are probably in nearly equal proportions, the excess of women over men in the foreign population becomes much more marked.

**THE ARMY OF THE FUTURE.**—"A Deputy Inspector General" in a published letter, maintains that we are about to get a sham army at a cost of sixteen millions. That (the writer says) is the real honest truth. He proceeds to establish it thus:—"I will give you the history of the very recruits, hundreds of whom have passed through my hands. They are sergeants who present them as ashamed of them. I remember asking an old Kaffir War man, 'What is the use of that lad as a soldier? Do you suppose you could ever get him to the banks of the Kee?' The reply was, 'Lord! no, Sir; we should leave him in a roadside ditch long before we got that length.' Such recruits are with difficulty got through their drill; they are too weak for it, and for their musket and accoutrements. They drink to keep up their strength; they get palpitation of the heart; they are shipped off, say to the Mediterranean or India, either die like flies or get invalided after a year or two, stay best part of another year in hospital, and are then discharged, penniless, to give the service a bad name far and wide. There is no regimental surgeon who will not tell you that it is ruinous folly to send such lads to soldier in India. The expenses, first and last, of recruiting such lads to soldier would enable us to recruit first-rate men; but the public only looks to the first cost, loses sight of the recruit, and never thinks or knows the mode of tracking the sums paid for his passage out and home, pay while ineffective, medical treatments, diet, wine, &c." The writer adds:—"We want a military Carlyle to show up the sham of our Army on its present system. Men who have never made themelves familiar with our soldiery, who have never viewed things from the private's point of view, theorise and plan fine schemes for what they think he would like, all the while knowing as little of his inner life as the drawing-room does of the servants' hall. Our fine reserve scheme is just an instance; our point. We are going to begin by trusting ourselves to an army of boys; but when men will clear out fast enough as 'discharged to the reserve;' but when you want them to fall in again, where will they be found? No, they will say, 'not for Joe;' we had enough of that before. How can a man settle himself in a country like England with a liability to soldier hanging over his head for years? Work is hard enough to be obtained as it is, and he would be bothered getting his gardener or groom 'into his ways' if he knew the bugle might call him off any day? The fourpence a day would be pocketed, I dare say; but the returns for it will make every effective gained by it cost a shilling a day; while, if we made up our minds to spend that sum in a straight-forward way at once, we should secure what the country really desires and will cheerfully pay for. As it is, our reserve scheme is just covering the country with cocked hats at an immense cost, while we cannot obtain recruits enough to meet ordinary casualties, much less augment our Army."



## LONDON POLICE COURTS.

**SHARP PRACTICE BY THE POLICE.**—At Westminster, on Tuesday, Mr. Adrian Vizetelly, a journalist, of Eltham, Kent; and Mr. Byron Blewitt, a surgeon, of Philipot-lane, City, were charged with resisting the police in the execution of their duty. Mr. Wright, solicitor, of Great Portland-street, defended. The charge arose out of the lucifer-match demonstration. It appeared that after the procession had been disturbed and scattered a number of those who had taken part in it still remained in Palace-yard, and policemen were put at the gates to prevent the ingress of any but members of Parliament. The police affirmed that the defendants asserted their right to enter the yard, attempted to force their way in, and resisted the police who tried to remove them; they were then locked up. The two defendants were examined on oath for each other. Mr. Vizetelly said he went as a member of the Press to take notes, and was rudely handled, as was his friend, who received a violent blow from a constable. Upon their expressing a wish to know the numbers of the constables and report them, they were collared like thieves, dragged to the station, not allowed to say anything, and thrust into a cell till bail came. The witness protested against this usage. Mr. Blewitt made a similar statement. Mr. Woolrych decided that there was an amount of resistance justifying the police in interfering upon so important and urgent an occasion; but he did not feel it to be his duty to convict the defendants, who were accordingly discharged.

**A PROPER SUBJECT FOR THE LASH.**—At Southwark, on Tuesday, Michael Collins, a tall, powerful-looking man, who has been at least twenty times convicted of assaulting the police, was charged with brutally assaulting a woman unknown in the street, also with committing savage assaults on Police-Constables 28 M R and 218 M in the execution of their duty. Mr. George Frost, oil and colour man, 194, Union-street, said that a little after four on the previous afternoon he saw the prisoner come out of the King of Prussia public-house, and deliberately seize an old woman who was standing near the kerb, lift her up and throw her with great violence on the pavement. He then walked away. Seeing Police-Constable 28 M Reserve come round the corner, he pointed to the prisoner, and told him what had occurred, and he went after him. Witness attended to a customer, and, on looking down the street, he saw the constable on the ground and the prisoner kicking him. Mr. Aldridge, a publican's son, seized hold of the prisoner, who threw himself on the ground and kicked about in all directions, and when the constable came up to secure him he kicked him on the body so violently that he was compelled to use his staff. About a hundred roughs surrounded them and tried to rescue him, but witness and Mr. Aldridge held him down until other constables came, and he was carried to the station-house, followed by a mob of 200 or 300 roughs, yelling and threatening the police, at whom they threw mud. Witness was severely kicked, and he thought at one time the constable was killed. Mr. Henry Aldridge, son of the landlord of the King of Prussia, at the corner of Gravel-lane, said the prisoner came into their house about four o'clock, and, as he appeared to have been drinking and was known as a violent character, he refused to serve him. He then seized a pot of beer belonging to three women, and drank it. Witness said his father ejected him from the house, and as soon as he got out he seized an old woman by the waist and threw her with great force on the pavement. Witness ran after him and took hold of him, when he threw himself on the ground and kicked out in a violent manner. He corroborated last witness's testimony in every particular. William Gibbs, 28 M Reserve, gave confirmatory evidence, and said he had been so severely injured that he was unfit for duty. Inspector Mason said it took eight constables to bring the prisoner to the station-house. He had been at least twenty times in custody for assaulting the police. On May 8, 1864, he was sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour; Oct. 4, one month; Nov. 15, two months; April 16, 1865, two months; Dec. 22, 1866, twenty-one days; March 30, 1867, cutting and wounding, acquitted; May 12, fourteen days; April 18, 1867, Surrey Sessions, eighteen months; March 25, 1869, acquitted; May 13, 1870, four months; and December, six weeks' hard labour. Mr. Partridge sentenced him to six months' hard labour in Wandsworth House of Correction.

**AN OLD IMPOSTOR.**—At Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, a man dressed in the uniform of the 16th Lancers, who gave the name of William Jones, and described himself as a printer having no home, was charged with begging. The defendant was standing in the street with a piece of pasteboard in front of him on which was written, "I am a poor discharged soldier. After serving my Queen and country for nine years, I was discharged on 6d. per day for six months; I am now blind and unable to work." When the defendant was taken into custody he told a pitiable story, and, though his statement as to his blindness was partially correct, the magistrate did not believe him and directed inquiries to be made. It was now reported that there was no soldier discharged from the 16th Lancers of the defendant's name, and that when the defendant was taken into custody he had only been out of prison three days, having been sent from the Thames Police Court for a month for a similar offence. On July 29, 1869, the defendant was charged at the Marlborough-street Police Court with begging, and he then said that he had been a soldier in India, but he was discharged on account of his defective eyesight. The defendant said if the magistrate would let him go he would destroy his soldier's clothing and walk through the streets without his jacket to the parish workhouse. Mr. Cooke said it was quite clear the defendant was a professional beggar, and sentenced him to three months' hard labour in the House of Correction.

**BEGGARS.**—A branch of the Society for Organizing Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy, established in Lambeth, has just issued a report of its first year's work. During this period the committee investigated 1155 cases, exclusive of those of hundreds of tramps. Of these no less

than eighty-five were found to be professional mendicants, whose sole means of livelihood was street begging. Eleven of these "professors" were sent to prison, while the remainder have been sent away from the district. In addition to professional beggars there exist a large class of persons actually in receipt of large wages who endeavour to supplement them by public charity. Of such ninety-nine cases were exposed by the society. The committee place on record two of the most glaring instances of attempted imposture:—"A's statement (made to the magistrate, and referred by him to the district committee).—A woman: Her husband seriously ill, five young children all dependent; no relief, except a little meat and wine from the parish.—Truth: Five children; one daughter in service, one son earning from 15s. to 17s. per week, another son 6s. Husband only laid by a month, but earning from 32s. to 34s. per week, yet receiving continuously 2s. 6d. and six leaves weekly for the last nine months.—B's Statement.—A female crossing-sweeper: Great distress; a widow. "Her dear husband in heaven."—Truth: Husband and wife in comfortable circumstances. Husband in constant work for years up to previous week; no family; in comparative affluence. When visited by society's agent and reminded of her statement that "her husband was in heaven," she replied "So he is, I hope; but I meant my first husband, of course."

**STEALING A MUSICAL BOX.**—A thief in Calcutta lately stole a musical box, thinking, probably, from its ornamental exterior, that it was a jewel-case. Having got off safe with his prize, he made his way to Well-sley-square, where, in the shrubbery, grows a certain large and bushy shrub. Close to this shrub resides the mallee who looks after the inclosure. The thief sat down in the shadow of the bush and proceeded to pick the lock. The "lock," however, was the spring to set the wheels going, so that all of a sudden the horrified thief heard his jewel-case begin in a lively manner to play "The Wind that Shakes the Barley." He jumped up, flung up the bewitched box, and fled. Meanwhile the mallee woke, listened—yes—his bush was resonant with sweet sound. He sat up; a cold perspiration burst out upon him; the bush which he had tended from its twighood—which he had watched these many years with all a mallee's pride—was decidedly bedevilled. The tune stopped—click—click—and then began the "Mabel Valse." This was too much for the mallee, who fled from the accursed spot to the police-inspector. Swiftly the pair returned to the garden. Cautiously they approached the tree, just in time to hear the musical box, which had now gone through its repertoire, rattle off the last bars of a comic song. The inspector recognised the sound, dived into the big bush, and extracted the musical box.—*Pioneer of India.*

## THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 21.

**BANKRUPTS.**—N. MARKS, Kingland, merchant—H. BURSLEYTH, Birmingham, fish merchant—J. E. GREEN, Enfield, brewer—P. G. DEBENHAM, Llandudno, wine merchant—J. W. DRAYTON, Yeovil, clothier—H. HOLMES, Halesowen, cattle salesman—W. HUNTINGDON and W. A. WILKINSON, Preston, manufacturers—J. C. SHELMEYER, Moss Side, IL TANNER, Rathfriland, manufacturing chemist—K. THOMPSON, nearborough, grocer and miller—T. WATKINSON, Bradford, breadmaker—Hon. C. WELLESLEY, Thames Ditton—J. V. L. WESTMACOTT, Adwick, surgeon.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.**—A. L. ROUNGRIE, Glasgow, tea merchant and grocer—A. CONNOR, South Ayrshire, vintner, farmer, J. MACKAY, Edinburgh, glass merchant—J. CUMMING, Stirling, saddler—J. GRACE, Dumfries, grocer and spirit merchant—J. HALLIDAY, Edinburgh, skinner—W. MOHATT, Leith, butcher—J. MINTY, Glasgow, butter and egg merchant.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 20.**  
**BANKRUPTIES ANNULLED.**—W. C. DIAPER, Bury St. Edmunds, bookkeeper—J. TRAVIS, Oldham, bookkeeper.  
**BANKRUPT.**—W. KEMP, Kilmarnock, J. G. and J. F. BORTH, Charlesworth, 1, Leabridge, Fontenay—C. F. BULLER, Windsor, Lieutenant in her Majesty's 2nd Regiment of Life Guards—W. H. HENWOOD, Lewisham, tinsmith—W. HALL, Hatfield, wine merchant—F. HAWKINS, Tregony, butcher—T. W. LEY, Parsons, Manchester, commission agent—J. LLOYD, Pontypridd, Huddersfield, brickmaker—M. MGRATH, Huddersfield, tea dealer—H. B. WOOLSEY, Norwich, dealer.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.**—D. FORREST, Pollokshaws, greener—J. PRATER, Langholm, twined man acturer R. and D. HUNTER, Paisley, starch manufacturer—A. MACQUARIE, Tobermory, mill, merchant—J. MACNICHOL, Pollokshaws, Renfrewshire, dealer and agent—D. MEGSON, Bellevue, Edinburgh, rag merchant—W. TURNBULL, Jedburgh, builder.

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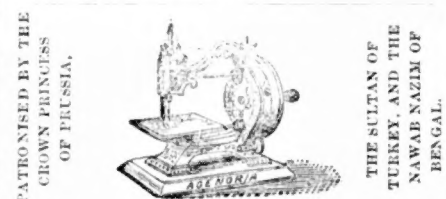
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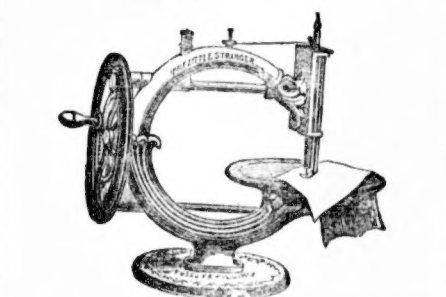


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